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Lungren Apologizes For 'Nasty Habits'

Vicious court brief comments cost deputy A.G. his job

by Dennis Conkin

California Attorney General Dan Lungren apologized to U.S. District Court Judge Sandra Brown Armstrong on Thursday, August 3 and removed a deputy state attorney general from a gays-in-the-military case after an earlier *Bay Area Reporter* news story about his office's handling of the case sparked outrage among lesbian and gay and civil rights attorneys.

Lungren removed Deputy Attorney General Andrew Loomis as the state

attorney defending the Army National Guard, a month after the *B.A.R.* reported on Loomis's controversial comments in the federal lawsuit filed by former California Army National Guard Lieutenant Andrew Holmes. Holmes was discharged from the service in 1993, after he informed his commanding officer that he was gay in violation of military "Don't ask, Don't tell" laws.

Loomis argued in written motions seeking dismissal of the case that Holmes had no right to sue over his discharge — and said the lieutenant was merely upset that "the Constitution does not recog-



Dan Lungren

Continued on page 18

It's Official: Gays Can Have Security

by Bob Roehr

The removal of sexual orientation as the sole grounds for denying governmental security clearances was one of several provisions contained within an executive order signed by President Bill Clinton Friday, August 4.

The 13-page "Access to Classified Information" grew out of a review of the case of former CIA employee Aldrich Ames, who was convicted of spying for the Soviet Union, and for the first time establishes uniform government-wide standards in granting security clearances.

The order also eases concerns about those who have sought mental health counseling. Another provision gives security agencies

greater access to the financial records of its employees, a measure that concerns some civil libertarians.

The President's move complements parallel efforts in employment matters. Over the last two years individual departments and agencies of the federal government have added sexual orientation to their non-discrimination clauses for employment.

It is "an important step toward ending governmentally sanctioned job discrimination against gay and lesbian people," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF).

Bill Weaver, president of High Tech Gays, a professional associa-

Continued on page 18

Coit Interruptus: Another East Bay Housing Scandal

by Mary Ann Swissler

Referrals to a government-subsidized East Bay apartment complex that houses an undisclosed number of people living with HIV/AIDS have been stopped because of persistent client complaints, the *B.A.R.* has learned.

Owners of the 105-unit Coit Apartment building near downtown Oakland were put on notice, partly as a result of a July 11, 1995 letter from a state HIV/AIDS advocate complaining that long-standing problems have not been addressed. Excell McGinnis, Chair of the HIV/AIDS Diagnosis California Network on Mental Health Clients on Minority Issues with the State of California, told the *B.A.R.* he is pleased that the flow of clients

into the building he terms a "deathtrap" has stopped.

But, said McGinnis, after two years of hounding county and city officials to improve living conditions at the site, which houses many seniors, substance abusers, and those with HIV, he has little faith repairs will come through.

In January 1994, McGinnis recorded videotaped comments by Coit residents who complained of rampant drug use and dealing, lack of heat, and a month or more wait for bedding materials and cooking facilities supposedly guaranteed under the Shelter Plus Care program. During a visit by the *B.A.R.* this week, many of these same problems were still obvious.

County Housing and

Continued on page 18



Photo: Rick Gerharter

Buns Ahoy!

This is why we live in San Francisco, a town where nudity, or close to it, is a natural part of the urban landscape. This thong queen was spotted lollygagging at the corner of Castro & 18th Streets by ace *B.A.R.* photojournalist Rick I-Love-Those-Golden-Globes Gerharter.

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Lesbian-on-Lesbian Murder Alleged in Mill Valley

by Maria De La O

A retired art teacher accused of murdering another woman whom she considered a romantic rival waived her right to a jury trial and pleaded not guilty at her arraignment in Marin on Tuesday, August 8.

Phyllis Yvonne Robbins, a 67-year-old with graying light brown hair, sat calmly in Courtroom 19 of Marin Superior Court as she entered her plea in front of Judge William H. Stevens. If convicted of murdering 71-year-old Barbara "Bobby" Wilson on June 5, Robbins will most likely spend the rest of her life behind bars, facing an estimated 31 years to life in prison.

Prosecutors say that Robbins, who had been living in a Napa mobile home with retired nurse Maurine Zwemke, 69, for about a year until the arrest, killed Wilson in a fit of jealousy over Zwemke.

Zwemke testified in a preliminary hearing that she had met Robbins at a campground in October 1993 and that they became romantically involved together. Robbins moved in with her the following June.

Wilson, a retired government worker and volunteer ranger in Muir Woods, had lived with Zwemke for 15 years in Mill Valley, on the slopes of Mount Tamalpais, until their breakup two years ago. Zwemke said she and Wilson were considering renewing their relationship and planned on taking a September cruise together. She also said she had asked Robbins to move out of the Napa mobile home and that her relationship with Robbins had "waned as far as I was concerned, [although] it didn't as far as she was concerned."

She characterized Robbins as "quite volatile, quite angry" about the ending of

the relationship.

Robbins was arrested four days after Wilson's badly beaten body was found in her own kitchen by paramedics responding to a 911 call from a woman who claimed to be having a heart attack. Detectives traced that 911 call to a call made at a Tam Junction pay phone, just outside Mill Valley, at 9 a.m. There was no sign of forced entry into Wilson's home, burglary, or sexual assault.

A party before the killing

Zwemke and Robbins had attended a dinner party for about ten guests at Wilson's home the evening before her body was found. Zwemke testified that she drove home with Robbins after dinner and that Robbins was still at home in the morning when Zwemke left to play golf in Fairfield. Police say Robbins drove to Mill Valley and

Continued on page 18

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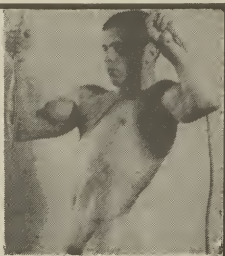
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Levy Runs the Asylum (Project) for IGLHRC

by Dennis Conkin

The San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission has hired Sydney Levy as the coordinator of its Asylum Project, which helps hundreds of lesbians and gays around the world seeking asylum from sexual orientation persecution.

Levy, 31, has served as the project's volunteer co-coordinator for the last two years and will leave his position with the Immigrant HIV Assistance Project of the San Francisco Bar Association to assume the post on Friday, September 1.

Levy was hired with two grants awarded to IGLHRC by the San Francisco Foundation and the New York-based Paul Rapoport Foundation.

"The equal protection of gays and lesbians under international asylum law is critical to the advancement of human rights for sexual minorities throughout the world," Levy said. "This position represents a great opportunity for me to help end discriminatory policies and practices against gays, lesbians and people with HIV."

The Venezuela-born Levy holds BA and MA degrees from Hebrew University, and a Master's in Business Administration from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

"The main thrust of the work is to provide human rights documentation to asylum seekers worldwide," Levy told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Half of our cases are not seeking asylum in the United States."

According to Levy, under international asylum law, there are five recognized categories for persecution — race, religion, national origin, particular social group, and political opinion.

In the United States last year, Attorney General Janet Reno established a precedent by ordering a 1990 decision published as a guideline, establishing that sexual orientation persecution was grounds for petition for particular social group asylum.

Other countries such as Canada, Belgium, the Netherlands, Australia, the United Kingdom, Finland, and Germany also have a similar interpretation of the law.

"It's neither a change in international law nor a special treatment or favor," Levy said.

According to IGLHRC executive director Julie Dorf, the agency's caseload of people seeking asylum

assistance has grown from 20 to an estimated 400 since 1993.

So much with so little

Much of the interest of the San Francisco Foundation, which awarded the Project a \$20,000

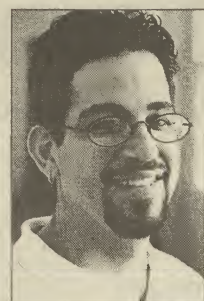


Photo: Marc Geller

Sydney Levy

one-year grant, stems from the fact that the group had accomplished so much with no funding and no paid staff.

"The San Francisco Foundation supports equal protections under U.S. law for all immigrants and refugees. We were impressed that the Asylum Project has accomplished so much with an all-volunteer staff and we are pleased to invest in the development of community-based services here in San Francisco to ensure

that gays, lesbians, and people with HIV who lodge claims of political asylum are treated fairly under U.S. law," said SFF program executive Herb Castillo.

A spokesperson for the Rapoport Foundation, which primarily funds New York-based groups serving New Yorkers, said it had decided to award the group a \$10,000 one-year grant because it was "a great resource for the human rights community, both in New York and nationally."

IGLHRC will also publish a resource directory for attorneys representing clients who claim political asylum because of persecution based on sexual orientation or HIV status. ▼

For more information on IGLHRC, call 255-8680.

Castro Halloween Party To Move ...But Not This Year

Sisters plan event elsewhere
to downsize Castro crowd

by Kent Brantley

Halloween has crept up so fast there is no time — or money — to move the monstrous celebration off Castro Street this October 31, concerned community leaders say. However, people are working to make the traditional event safer, to siphon away some of the crowd, and to move the street party out of the Castro neighborhood entirely — perhaps to the Embarcadero or Civic Center — by 1996.

Although a scaled-down Castro Street Halloween celebration will take place again this year, an effort will be made to channel a large part of the annual party out of the Castro and onto "neutral" turf.

San Francisco's Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Inc. will put on a Halloween party South of Market this year, which organizers hope will pull some of the crowd away from the Castro. One possible indoor site under negotiation is the Pleasure Dome.

Dahn Van Laarz, otherwise known as Sister Camille Leon, president of SPI, said the organization is still in meetings with the Neighborhood Coalition, which includes Community United Against Violence (CUAV), Merchants of Upper Market (MUM), the Eureka Valley

Promotional Association (EVPA), one of the oldest community groups in the nation) and the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association. The coalition met Monday, August 7 to analyze and attempt to solve concerns resulting from last year's runaway Halloween party. Last year 300,000 to 500,000 people attended the event, at which police arrested 55 people and seized several automatic weapons and machetes from revelers — and one man was shot.

There will be more security at the Castro party this year, the coalition determined, plus a general "tightening up" on the use of alcoholic beverages, an effort to diminish noise, an earlier shut-down time, and, in the words of Barry Hermanson, president of Merchants of Upper Market, "The biggest task will be dealing with the after-midnight crowd."

Too big for the Castro

All the coalition members are committed to moving Halloween out of the Castro, asserting that it has definitely outgrown the neighborhood, but say that will not happen this year.

The most important issue for Community United Against Violence (CUAV), said director

Lester Olmstead-Rose, is safety in the Castro and the safety of the gay/lesbian/bi/transgender community. CUAV will be working with Carey Craig of CW Productions and John Cast of J. Cast Productions to work with Castro merchants, residents, and police in creating a safe event. They will formulate strategies on crowd control, entrance points, alcoholic beverage control, and downsizing the party.

Craig said that while emphasis will be on safety, secondary goals are to set aside funds to move the event next year, and to "keep it fun."

The 25 active SPI sisters are committed to using their expertise to assist CUAV and the events company in organizing safety and accomplishing the gradual move. Van Laarz told the *B.A.R.* "We tried this and we tried that. ... We're all working toward a common goal of moving the event and ending up with a united queer-friendly event elsewhere in the future."

The financial groundwork for moving the Halloween party from the Castro requires considerable time and effort, Olmstead-Rose told the *B.A.R.* He said he expects the Halloween celebration to be moved from the Castro as soon as next year. ▼



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

Manager Al Jenkins says the Galleon is trying to "sort out" tax problems.

Galleon, Closed by IRS, To Reopen Today

by Kent Brandley

Albert F. (Al) Jenkins, operator of the Galleon Supper Club, told the *Bay Area Reporter* at press time Wednesday that a court order would be signed instructing the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to allow the restaurant to reopen today (Thursday, August 10).

The IRS closed the restaurant, located at 718 14th Street (at Church and Market), on Tuesday, August 1. IRS officials were not immediately available for comment.

Jenkins, who is vice president

and general manager of Sailing Ship Inc., said management of the Galleon had been trying to "sort out" tax problems. The corporation had sought protection under the Bankruptcy Code, Chapter 11, on August 3 but this failed to stop the IRS action. Jenkins said he and the IRS disagreed on the amount owed in federal taxes.

Walter R. Nelson, attorney for the Galleon, filed a temporary restraining order in the Northern District Federal Bankruptcy Court on Monday, August 7, in an effort to force the IRS to allow the restaurant to reopen.

Jenkins has been in hot water on a separate front, as well, as the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) continues to issue search warrants and press its investigation into the Starlite Moving and Storage company he formerly owned.

The PUC has alleged in court documents that Jenkins committed felony embezzlement in that case. However, no charges have been filed by Robert Perez of the San Francisco District Attorney's Consumer Fraud Unit, who is working with the CPUC in the ongoing investigation. ▼

My Place shuttered for ten days over lewd conduct

by Dennis Conkin

My Place, a popular South of Market gay bar located at 1235 Folsom Street, re-opens Thursday, August 10 after a ten-day lewd conduct suspension ordered by the state Alcohol and Beverage Control.

The penalty was ordered because of violations last year of public sexual activity in the bar area of the establishment, according to Mike Tyrell, local ABC director.

Tyrell told the *Bay Area*

Reporter that any future infractions by the establishment will include automatic reinstatement of a stayed portion of the suspension and additional penalties.

My Place was the subject of SF Health Department AIDS Office concern last year over a back alleyway connected to the premises that was allegedly used for sexual activity by patrons of the leather bar.

Following complaints, the owner of the premises abated the public health nuisance; Tyrell said the 1994 violations that led to the

suspension were unrelated to the infamous alley.

The club reopens with a change of management. ▼

Yeager campaign strongly supported by gay community

by Marv. Shaw

Gay Assembly candidate Ken Yeager has taken the lead in fundraising among Democrats seeking to represent the 23rd District. Yeager has reported over \$50,000 in contributions so far; the other three candidates for the party's nomination have, altogether, less than 25 percent of that. Mike Honda, formerly considered the frontrunner, has less than \$3,000.

Yeager told the *B.A.R.* that about two-thirds of his funds have come from the gay community, and more community fundraisers are already in the works: a September 29 event in San Jose will be followed by one in San Francisco October 8. "I want the whole Bay Area gay community to get excited about my candidacy," Yeager declared.

Beyond local efforts, the

Yeager campaign has been given \$5,000 by BAYMEC (Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee) and has a good chance of receiving more from the Victory Fund.

The greater part of the funding will go for preparing the campaign materials that will go directly to voters, much of it from the hands of the door-to-door volunteers who are already in the precincts.

Volunteer sign-ups have grown, but there is still a need for willing hands, especially for the office staff at his headquarters. ▼

The Ken Yeager for Assembly campaign is located at 195 Stockton Avenue (behind the Billy de Frank Gay and Lesbian Community Center) in San Jose. The phone number is (408) 271-9040.

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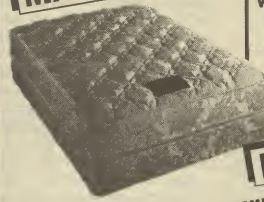
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How bad is the crypto problem? SF Warned: State May Not Renew Water Permit

by Kent Brandlely

While San Franciscans are repeatedly assured by local health officials that sexual contact, and not the water, is causing cryptosporidiosis among immunocompromised residents, documents from the State Health Department show there is plenty of cause for concern about the organisms that live in our water supply. A stern letter written July 18 warns the city, "It will be very difficult for the department to issue a new domestic water supply permit for the San Francisco water system without very significant restrictions."

A storm runoff situation in March triggered the unusually harsh letter from the State Department of Health Services to Anson B. Moran, general manager of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (PUC). District Engineer Clifford L. Bowen, who signed the letter, chastised sloppy procedures used at that time and wrote, "It is our intention to prevent a bad situation from deteriorating any further."

The department earlier issued a citation to the PUC for violating drinking water quality standards in water produced at its Sunol treatment plant in March of this year.

Supervisor Carole Migden, who held hearings on water safety this summer, commented, "We have suspected problems with the water supply and its management for years. Our concerns were flatly denied at our hearing, and despite our uneasiness we really don't have the capacity or funding to make an independent assessment of our water quality. We laud the effort of the B.A.R. for continuing to take the lead on this issue. It lends credence to our persistence."

"We cannot afford to be lax about something as important as our water supply — especially when it impacts those who are immune-compromised."

'Significantly higher' crypto levels

Bowen specifically mentioned cryptosporidium, a waterborne cyst that is particularly dangerous for people with weak immune systems, in his letter. "Since early June, turbidities in the Hetch-Hetchy system have been elevated due to the unusually wet winter and attendant runoff," he wrote. "We have requested that SFWD conduct a daily sampling program of this water for giardia and cryptosporidium so that we can compare the results of the past several years of similar data. This will

allow a preliminary assessment of the impact of highly turbid runoff on water quality. Testing to date suggest that the giardia and cryptosporidium levels in the turbid runoff are significantly higher than the highest observed peaks in the historical data set."

"We believe that it is in SFWD's urgent self-interest to examine these results and provide a reasonable explanation."

Bowen's language then got more blunt.

"Combined with the low priority accorded water quality, this lack of professionalism presents the department and others who are dependent upon you for the safety and security of their water supply with a very troubling situation," he wrote. "Meeting the obligations to continue to provide safe drinking water will require fundamental changes in the way that SFWD is organized and operated."

According to Bowen, the real issue is planning, or the lack thereof.

"Rather than take a proactive approach that accepts responsibility for its actions and plans for the future," the state engineer wrote, "SFWD has abdicated this responsibility and instead acts only when forced to do so by the agency with the most immediate potential." ▼

Berkeley Unitarian Seminary Offers Gay Course

by Marv. Shaw

Acting on two prime principles of the Unitarian Universalist denomination — the inherent worth and dignity of every person and the consistent practice of inclusion — the Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley is once again offering "Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Spiritualities" for all interested graduate students.

Beginning on September 5, Chuck Sjostak and Grace Simons will conduct the course at the Le Conte Avenue campus on Mondays from 9:40 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Their overall objective: "In celebration of the diversity of human experience, this course will explore the spirituality of non-heterosexual people. The focus will be to better understand sexual minorities and ourselves in order to enrich ministry and pastoral care." The course concludes on December 15.

While the latter part of the objective statement seems to limit the prospective students to those matriculating for the ministry and preparing for ordination, no such limitation is intended, according to Sjostak, who spoke with the *Bay Area Reporter* recently about the nature of the course, the ways in which it will be conducted, and his own involvement.

Sjostak, 40, avers that he is not specifically a candidate for the ministry, even though he is working toward a Master of Divinity degree. With an M.B.A. in his preparation already and much experience in education and computer techniques, his aspirations are toward chaplaincy work with the gay, lesbian, bisexual community, particularly in counseling gay and lesbian youth, AIDS ministry/hospice, and spiritual weekend retreats.

His co-educator, Grace Simons, is married, has two grown children, and has already had a career teaching science to junior high students. Her major reason for teaching the course is a commitment to fighting the injustices which befall GLBT communities on a daily basis.

According to Sjostak, "Grace and I will focus on developing self-awareness around the general issues of sexuality, especially as it relates to our spiritual nature. When the course is over, it is our wish that the members will be more aware of their own struggles around sexuality and more cognizant of the unique challenges facing the GLBT person, and be more able to offer genuine pastoral support, especially as an understanding and sympathetic listener."

Minimizing lecture, the teachers, who are following a firm but unique practice at Starr King of having students teach some of the courses, will use a combination of teaching-learning techniques, from role-

playing and brain-storming to small group discussion and meditation.

'Honoring, validating, and celebrating diversity'

Some books, such as *Looking at Gay and Lesbian Life* by Blumenthal and Raymond and *What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality* by Helminiak, will be key, but other references will deal with multiculturalism and racism as well.

These texts and the experiential mode of the class-work will all work toward the development of one of the overriding themes of the course, "honoring, validating, and, indeed, celebrating diversity, within both the human race generally and within the GLBT community itself," Sjostak explained.



Chuck Sjostak

Toward that end, the two teachers ask, "What better place to address diversity than in the training of our spiritual leaders?"

And what is spirituality? Sjostak cites as his favorite the definition of Sandra Schneider, who has taught within the GLBT community: "Spirituality is the experience to strive to integrate the various aspects of one's life." To that Sjostak adds, "We all have a spiritual dimension to our beings. I have met humanists, pagans, and agnostics who very much acknowledge the sense of the sacred in their lives."

Sjostak, who divides his time currently between Berkeley and the home he and his architect lover Dennis Davis built not far from the Russian River, has been approached to work with a group of gay men in that area this fall toward the same spiritual goals the course has projected.

Starr King is one of nine institutions within the Graduate Theological Union just to the north of the UC campus. There is considerable interchange among the nine and also with the University of California itself. ▼

More information can be secured by writing Starr King School for the Ministry, 2441 Le Conte Avenue, Berkeley CA 94709 or calling (510) 845 6232.

Out On the Island Raises Funds At Queer Housewarming

by Mary Ann Swissler

Alameda lesbian and gay organizers raised \$1,350, and awareness of the continuing need to stay visible and active in city politics, during a July 25 fundraiser benefiting Out On The Island.

The East Bay group came to prominence in June for opposing that city's refusal to grant a gay pride proclamation, and for subsequently securing a promise from Mayor Ralph Appenzato that he will issue a proclamation in October to commemorate Gay and Lesbian History Month. Out on the Island's hard work and effectiveness were recognized by Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, who told the crowd at the fundraiser, "Alameda will never be the same because of what you have done."

"I immediately knew it was going to be big; bigger than the mayor thought," he said. "The native sons and daughters have come forward to reclaim their town from the clutches of the right. ... It was about you coming out and exploding the closet. They picked the wrong queers to mess around with."

Bray, chair of the NGLTF's Fight the Right project, credited the group with confronting the radical right in the form of the Reverend Don Taylor, who — despite being the lone religious opponent to the Gay Pride Proclamation — portrayed himself as representative of a moral majority in Alameda.

(Taylor later faxed Out on the Island Vice President Christine Allen to complain about the forthcoming educational forum on homosexuality this October. He claims that because his derogatory viewpoints on practicing homosexuals will not be represented there is an imbalance. Allen told the B.A.R. that Taylor requested representatives — including people supposedly "cured" of homosexuality — to attend. The board, said Allen, sponsors these town hall style meetings several times a year, on topical subjects like immigration.)

'We will prevail'

Before closing, Bray reminded the group that small towns like Alameda exist all over the country, and that of 97 pieces of gay and lesbian legislation introduced in 33 states in the last year, 39 were anti-gay. One was a ban against including gays in artificial insemination clinics; another was a bill in Louisiana where homicide of an HIV-positive person would be allowable under the law, if the defendant "believes" they'll be "attacked."

Alameda represents "good news," Bray said, a sign that "ultimately we will prevail."

State Assembly members Barbara Lee and Robert J. Campbell also spoke to the crowd about how important the group's contributions have been. "What you're doing now is the only way

you're going to defeat [the right]," Campbell said. "This is a case of human rights, civil rights."

In other related developments in Alameda, Allen has asked the Social Services Human Relations Board to write a "letter to city council advising them action was not in the best interest of equality and goodwill," and will get an answer to that at its next meeting. Also, the B.A.R. has learned, two city commission seats were offered as an olive branch by Appenzato, to Out on the Island Religious Outreach Chairperson Morten Wellhaven and President Kathy Teller.

Teller, who sits on the Base Reuse Commission, said she would take the mayor up on his offer, but Wellhaven declined, saying he already sits on three other "do-good" boards. ▼

Out on the Island can be reached by phone at (510) 337-1300, or by fax at (510) 337-0391.



Photo: Phil Migliarese Jr.

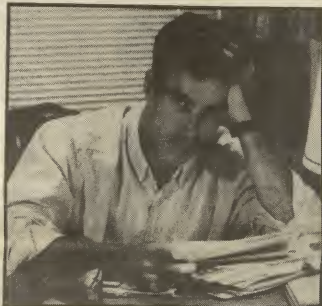
Robert Bray, center, with founding members of Alameda's Out on the Island, Kathy Teller (left) and Christine Allen.

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At Presstime

The Ohio ACLU filed an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court Wednesday, August 9 over a Cincinnati ordinance that voided housing, employment and other discrimination protections to gay, lesbian and bisexual residents.

A similar challenge, to Colorado's Amendment 2, is already pending in the Supreme Court.

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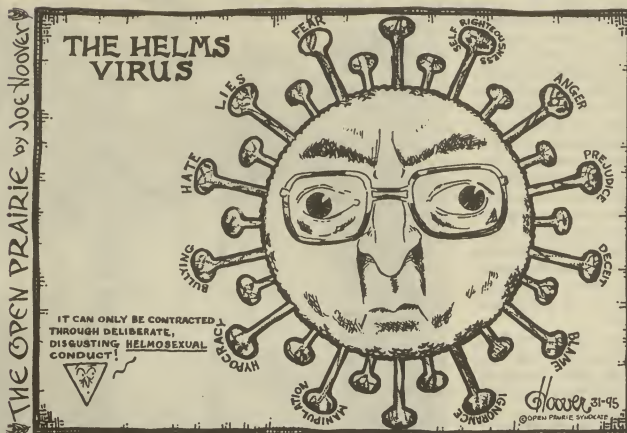
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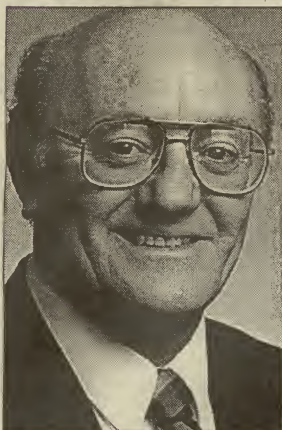
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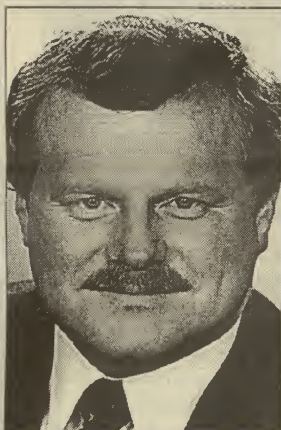


EDITORIAL

Two Early Endorsements



Arlo Smith



Mike Hennessey

We would like to remind everyone of the many good things that Arlo Smith has done for our community. He has zealously prosecuted hate crimes against members of our community, most times ending in victories. He has gone after unscrupulous attorneys and others who have preyed upon persons with AIDS or their estates, again with a great deal of success. He has made victimless crimes a low priority in his prosecutions.

He has hired many gay and lesbian attorneys and other employees. He also hires other minorities without pressure. He has been a good District Attorney and has earned your support in his bid for re-election.

We heartily endorse Arlo Smith for District Attorney.

Mike took over a very troubled department when first elected. He has managed over time to rectify a lot of wrongs within the Sheriff's Department. He has continued what Dick Hongisto started when he was Sheriff, i.e., outreach to all minority communities for new job hires. Many of you will recall the flak he took for taking his recruitment teams into the gay bars.

With many HIV-positive prisoners in the system, Mike has been a compassionate and caring Sheriff. He has also been reachable when we have had complaints from prisoners through the Bay Area Reporter. He has handled most of those complaints himself, to everyone's satisfaction. While some problems still exist, mainly at the antiquated San Bruno Jail facility, Mike has coped and fought long and hard for prisoners rights. We can remember when this wasn't the case. Of all our public officials we can think of no one who deserves your vote more.

Re-elect Mike Hennessey Sheriff.

GUEST OPINION

Be Respectful—Not Frightened—Of Thalidomide

by Charles Davidson

The recent report on 60 minutes about the unfortunate, and avoidable, thalidomide tragedy of nearly 40 years ago was sensationalist and needs to be responded to. Continued lack of understanding of this drug only helps to keep a door to important medical advances closed. The time to open the door is long overdue.

As it stands now, it would be a considerable understatement to say that tens of thousands of people in the United States are being denied access to a drug that is the only one effective for their condition. The FDA is intimidating providers of underground thalidomide, yet the agency did absolutely nothing to further thalidomide research over the past six years since the first report appeared of its benefit in the treatment of AIDS (Youle M. et al, *British Medical Journal*, 1989).

But while the FDA has long sanctioned in the U.S. an environment of prohibition for clinical thalidomide research, the drug has fortunately undergone extensive investigation (beginning decades ago) in other countries, so a considerable body of literature exists to guide us in its use. For example, while it is listed in *Marindale's* drug index (the European version of the *American Physicians Desk Reference*) for treatment of AIDS-related aphthous ulcers, certain auto-immune diseases, and leprosy, it is conspicuously missing in the American PDR. In Brazil, thalidomide is currently the treatment of choice for over 30,000 persons with severe leprosy reactions.

The thalidomide tragedy of the early 1960s must not continue to blind us to this drug's potentially great value in the treatment of other serious conditions. As it turns out, the ability of thalidomide to induce birth defects is regulated to its ability to inhibit the production of various growth factors required for fetal limb growth. These same factors are believed to be involved in the expansion of some tumors, which have been suggested to be suppressible by thalidomide as well.

It's also important to bear in mind that the frequency of thalidomide-induced birth defects in the early 1960s was vastly increased because it was mass-marketed as a safe sedative and as a relief for morning sickness in early pregnancy. At that time thalidomide was cavalierly marketed to a specific population — pregnant women — without ever undergoing any safety investigation in that group. Also, other drugs that produce birth defects (besides thalidomide) have gone on to become commonly used in America, but care is taken are not prescribed to women capable of becoming pregnant.

Unfortunately, since thalidomide is an orphan drug that has long since gone off-patent, no company (and certainly not the U.S. government) would be willing to provide the financial resources to investigate it for medical indication. No government program is available to help any significant number of people to obtain thalidomide. Reportedly, National Cancer Institute clinical trials were recently delayed for lack of adequate supply of drug, and physicians must frequently acquire it on the underground.

People with AIDS urgently need thalidomide now! ▼

For more on the subject, see the story on page 19.

LETTERS

Contagious bigotry

Bigotry and prejudice are the most contagious diseases afflicting America today, and the Republicans appear to be the most susceptible, as we see by their stances on Affirmative Action.

Considering that a number of Secret Service officials sympathized with the intolerant views of GOP extremists and these "leftovers" from the Reagan-Bush White House days, their wearing of rubber gloves should come as no surprise. They were just being considerate: they just didn't want President Clinton's visitors catching their bigotry!

On another, more serious matter: I am sad to say that I heard one of my gay brothers ask, "What's so important about the gays in the military issue? I don't want to be in the military! Why should I care?" He misses the point: given the climate of intolerance being fostered by Republican (and some Democrat) extremists and the assault being made on all minorities' civil rights, it is important that we *all* stick together. No matter which minority is affected, the fight is *our* fight. No matter which government agency denies equality we cannot allow it, or bigotry to be enshrined and institutionalized.

Do all you can to register your peers. For it is *only* at the ballot box and by attending public meetings in strength that we can assure not only other minorities' futures, but our own as well.

Cliff Anchor
Monte Rio, CA

A decision to transition

In a recent anonymous letter purported to be from Rita da Cascia staff, certain issues were raised regarding the transition of the Rita da Cascia Community from a congregate living residence to independent housing subsidies with support services. The decision to transition the program was based on two years of evaluations, the San Francisco Five Year HIV/AIDS Housing Plan, client surveys, and community input. The Department of Public Health AIDS Office worked closely with Catholic Charities to redesign the program model to one that more closely meets the needs of the families.

Catholic Charities realizes that change is challenging and that the current residents in the program were not eager to move and develop new relationships. The Rita da Cascia staff does an outstanding job in delivering services to families. It is because of the hard work of the staff that the program has been successfully transitioned.

Barbara Collins
Director, Residential Services Catholic Charities,
Archdiocese of San Francisco

Burning bridges

Since my letter in defense of Keith Jackson was published in your last issue, Mr. Charles Lehman, the editor of the Asian Pacific Democratic Club's (APDC) newsletter, and Mr. Cedric Yap, both members of APDC's Political Action Committee, have informed me that my recollection of Mr. Jackson's comments to our club regarding JROTC is in error. Mr. Lehman's written notes from Mr. Jackson's presentation indicate that Mr. Jackson did indeed promise to vote against JROTC if elected to the school board.

I acknowledge my error and thank both Messrs. Yap and Lehman for correcting me. Nonetheless, the concern expressed in my letter about GLAAD's organized attack upon one of San Francisco's few African-American elected officials still remains.

Granted that Mr. Jackson's vote in favor of JROTC, in light of his promise to vote against it, is a serious breach of public trust, I believe it still behooves our community to attempt to work with Mr. Jackson (and the board majority) to create a working compromise on this issue rather than launching a destructive political attack against Mr. Jackson individually.

There is more than one side to this issue. While the queer community has legitimate concerns about JROTC's homophobia, other communities, whom Mr. Jackson also represents, have equally legitimate concerns about educational and vocational opportunities for their children. Can't we work together to somehow reach a satisfactory compromise without attacking each other?

Should the queer community swing its considerable political weight against Mr. Jackson, it will mark the second time we have used that weight to attack a respected African-American in public office. While our motives may be pure and the justice of our position unquestionable, the resulting divisions between the queer and the African-American communities remain just as deep. We continue to burn our bridges rather than build them.

Richard Davis
San Francisco

[The editor responds: It would never occur to us to use the word "respected" to describe someone whose votes are a serious breach of public trust. We agree that more bridges, and fewer walls, are needed, but to "work together" with Mr. Jackson seems to be exactly as effective as not working at all.]

Prejudice in the community

This is in response to the letter to the B.A.R. from Richard Burrow (7/27).

I, too, am a black gay male in S.F., and I, too, have experienced similar circumstances that Mr. Burrow has experienced. I moved to the Bay Area in 1980 and was astounded, as I am today, at the prejudice that exists in the gay community.

Never in my life did I expect to be rejected by another minority who has done nothing but reap the benefits that other minority groups have struggled and fought for.

You would think that gay men and women, being an oppressed group, would stand up and unite with other minorities, thus creating a stronger hold and bond on the overall gay, lesbian and people of color union. We, as gay men and women, need to stop this insidious racial hatred. Just a walk into any bar in the gay community will tell you how widespread this racial hatred is.

My recent trip thru the bars showed me not one person of color working behind the bars, just gay white males as far as the eye can see.

Needless (and I'm sorry) to say, I no longer patronize or support gay businesses. I'd rather give my money to the straight community and will continue to do so until the gay (predominantly the males) community realizes that you would be nowhere without us.

James Talley
San Francisco

Getting beyond racism

I was disheartened to read a letter from Richard T. Burrow relaying his experiences of blatant racist comments made to him by (I assume) European-American gay men. In the current political environment where the issue of "race" is being used by certain candidates to catapult to higher office, it is absurd that gay men of any color would make such comments.

Or is it?

We may be gay men, but we often ignore the fact that we all grew up in a racist society. I constantly have to remind myself of this fact of life.

Mr. Burrow, I want to say that I'm sorry for the individuals who made those comments to you.

To the men who made the comments, I only ask that you take a moment to think about what you said and how it hurt him. I would also hope that you will apologize to Mr. Burrow for your thoughtless statements. To all gay men of every color, it is my greatest wish that we can get beyond the racist assumptions and start treating each other as individuals.

David van der Griff
San Francisco

Shocked by Lungren

[The following letter was sent to California Attorney General Dan Lungren:]

I write to convey my profound disappointment and shock with your decision to file an amicus brief supporting the Colorado Amendment Two case.

To begin with, you're the attorney general of all California's citizens, not just those citizens agreeing with militant fundamentalist groups like the Traditional Values Coalition. In case you haven't noticed, California contains many law-abiding, tax-paying gay and lesbian citizens. You slap each of us in the face with your decision to file a brief on "behalf" of California. I don't support your brief at all and I resent your effort to portray all California citizens as supportive of your anti-gay views.

You state that you file this brief due to your belief that Amendment Two violates state rights. If you have a problem with initiatives which violate state rights, then I'm certain there are others which you could use as examples. Amendment Two was created to do one thing and that is remove the constitutional rights of gay and lesbian United States citizens. It creates a special right to discriminate against one group of people. It's disgusting that you would ever conceive of using such a discriminatory law to promote your legal opinions.

As U.S. citizens, we're entitled to certain rights. By removing our ability to rent apartments, hold jobs, vote, gain credit or obtain public accommodations, this law blocks our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It's patently clear that this law is unconstitutional and grossly unfair. I'm astonished that you would support it for any reason.

In the future, if you're unable to stand up for equality, I would urge you to mind your own business when it comes to discriminatory initiatives passed in other states. You were elected to be California's attorney general, not to put our state's blessing on homophobia in other places.

If you wish to score points with the Christian Coalition, do it on your own time, not on behalf of California.

Michael Blair
Clayton, CA

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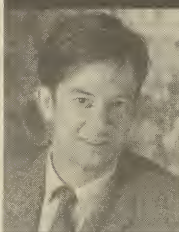
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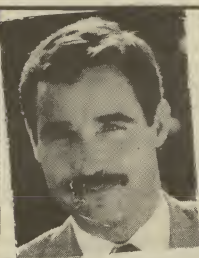
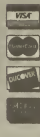
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LETTERS

Support Food Not Bombs

The homeless have AIDS – white, black, gay, or straight. Homelessness is not the disease of an illiterate, oversexed minority living an alternate lifestyle. Homelessness, like AIDS, is not contracted through group affiliation; poverty is.

Poverty is a disease spread, contracted, and endured by the ninety percent of men, women, and children forced to share ten percent of this nation's resources. Homelessness is a threatening disease that strikes America's poor without warning. The poor is any man or woman who is dependent upon a paycheck for a living.

When gay men or lesbians are living in a system based upon exploitation, they are forced to become either an exploiter of human commodities or the person who has been reduced to an exploitable commodity. Commodities are products produced to satisfy consumers. If the consumer demand is met, then there is no longer a need to continue producing the commodity that was once in demand. A commodity damaged beyond repair is rejected by consumers and either returned to their manufacture for a refund or disposed of. However, human commodities undergo a similar process. This process is called unemployment.

Once a gay man or lesbian contracts AIDS, they cease to possess value to their employers and are considered defective. Often without benefits or pensions, gay men and lesbians are tossed out of the workplace into the rising pile of unemployed Americans, where they are forced to fight healthy men and women for food, clothing, and shelter. Because they may lack the necessary strength to struggle for survival, they often go without food or housing.

In spite of a growing army of missions or outreach programs, there is still not enough food or housing available to ease their struggle for survival. The group Food Not Bombs has been providing homeless gay men and lesbians with whatever food they could provide, thus enabling gay men and lesbians to continue their existence. Food Not Bombs recently proposed utilizing the Presidio as a means of providing readily available housing for San Francisco's homeless.

It is necessary for the city's gay and lesbian community to support groups such as Food Not Bombs who are attempting to care for homeless gay men and lesbians. Because, by supporting such groups, we support the homeless members of our own gay and lesbian communities, until we can devise the financial means necessary to support these gay men and

lesbians with the dignity and comfort they deserve.

E.G.G. Allen
San Francisco

Lesbians for O.J.?

This letter is in response to "Bay Area Lesbian Attorney Joins Simpson Defense Team" (July 27). The article describes the involvement of Chris Arguedas as a consultant to the O.J. Simpson "dream team," and her "catapult ... into the ranks of legal superstardom." The article goes on to quote Amanda Ebey that "It's really very exciting. I think it shows how well we are all doing."

I find it appalling that lesbians who are well aware of the problems of domestic violence and who as homosexuals face great discrimination, would be excited about defending a known wife-beater. What kind of thing is that to get excited about? Although I don't know O.J. Simpson, his acquaintance with well-known homophobe Rosie Greer should give us some indication about his lack of tolerance for gays.

I think any lesbian who would help defend O.J. Simpson lacks any conscientiousness and sensitivity to the plight of women like Nicole Brown and are the lowest slime conceivable. For your paper to view them as superheroes is totally hypocritical in the extreme, but then the B.A.R. has its own way of seeing things the B.A.R. way.

Keep up the good work, maybe you should write a cover story on some yuppie gay attorneys assisting Jonathan Tyler Schmitz, then we could be in the mainstream and famous because we consulted for a real famous gay killer on Jenny Jones, no less. Gee, then we could really get excited. Isn't gay life in San Francisco grand?

Joseph King
San Jose

[The editor responds: In case anyone else believes that we only put superheroes on the cover of the B.A.R., we can state for the record that we don't. We don't invent news, we report it, and unapologetically believe Arguedas is newsworthy. Whatever your feelings about lawyers, the Constitution does guarantee people – all people, including known wife-beaters – the right to defense counsel. Generally speaking, we think that's a good thing, even when it occasionally looks as weird as the Simpson case. Ironically, in that same issue we even began the weekly editorial with the words, "It's hard to tell which will look most ridiculous from the perspective of future generations: the O.J. Simpson trial..."

And yes, gay life in San Francisco is grand. How happy are you in San Jose?]

Remember Pedro

Like millions of people all over the world, I was deeply moved and inspired by the life and death of Pedro Zamora. I am now an AIDS educator, going to classrooms and talking to students about living with HIV in very much the same way that Pedro did. My decision to do this was inspired entirely by Pedro. Like many others here in San Francisco, I have been very disappointed to see that no lasting tribute or memorial to Pedro has ever been established. Miami has renamed a street in Pedro's honor. Los Angeles just opened a new clinic for HIV youth, named after Pedro.

Pedro lived here in San Francisco for approximately six months. *The Real World*, which brought him to the attention of millions worldwide, was filmed here. He married his partner while living in the house on Lombard Street, and was planning to move back to San Francisco to begin life

together with Sean. Unfortunately, as we all know, time was not on Pedro's side.

If there are others out there who feel as I do – that a lasting tribute to a man who gave so selflessly of himself to others, and whose work lives on in the lives of so many of us, is long overdue – please contact me and let's see what we can do.

Bob Kane
San Francisco

Charity loses

Regarding: "Magennis Cleared" and "Magennis Saga Lesson."

Here we go with the drum beating. First, Mr. Magennis's defense seemed to gloss over this case without putting in any of the key points of the case.

• Number one: the original case was heard by a real judge, not a lawyer playing dress-up for a day. That's what a pro-tem judge is.

• Number two: the case the Pacific Bears won was heard in court for over 3 days, to total almost 9 hours of testimony, not 45 minutes by a pro-tem judge.

• Number three: the real judge spent over 45 days deliberating on this case, not 2 1/2 days deliberation as the pro-tem did.

Because of this incident the reputation of the Pacific Bears California was destroyed across the country, and our membership was torn apart. I don't seem to remember anyone mentioning that in all the articles that have been written.

Yes, the saga is over. Many people were hurt by this whole thing, but mostly the people who would have benefited from the missing money. It's sad, charity is always the one to get screwed. Thank you to Mr. Don Thompson, Mr. Wayne Johnson, and Mr. Kyle Korinek for your help, and for believing in the truth.

Beat that drum slowly, very slowly, and quietly.

Michael E. Gardner
San Francisco

Bat-closet?

I sent the following letter in response to an article in *Entertainment Weekly*. While I seriously doubt that it will be printed I felt it necessary to address.

Me thinks me smells a co-conspiracy of silence. The Joel Schumacher, director of *Batman Forever*, article ("Gotham City's New Boss," July 21, 1995) delves into many utterly personal and revealing aspects of his life.

We learn about his hedonistic days of drugs, dancing, and debauchery on Fire Island (a notorious gay hot spot), his recovery from speed and eventual recovery from alcoholism, his many gay and lesbian friends, and finally about his current living situation (in an "expensively cozy Bel Air house," alone except for four dogs, four cats, a security guard, and a young British male butler who "goes about his duties in jeans and shirttails").

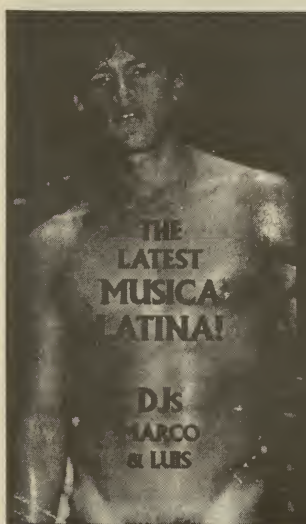
Yet when asked about his "private life," he responds with a flip "At my age, who would care?"

Lots of people, Mr. Schumacher, that's who. Gays and lesbians, young and old, need less closeted (the shame message) and more out (we're everywhere, more out, talented, successful and proud) entertainment professionals.

What does someone like Mr. Schumacher, who has made more on one film than I may make in my lifetime, have to lose?

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Powell for President in '96?

Political insiders in Washington were saying this week that Kansas Senator Bob Dole, the current front-runner for the GOP presidential nomination, while surely looking over his shoulder at Texas Senator Phil Gramm, Washington-based homophobic TV commentator Pat Buchanan, Pennsylvania's Senator Arlen Specter, and even House Speaker Newt Gingrich, is actually most nervous about retired General Colin Powell.

Powell, speaking in San Diego

Commentary

last week, refused to tip his hand on his plans for 1996, but went to great pains *not* to deny he would enter the race. When asked directly if he would enter the presidential fray, either as an Independent or a Republican (most of his close associates say he will eventually register as a Republican), Powell told reporters that he is busy writing his memoirs ("they're nearly finished, however") and would make no decision about entering any political race until later this year, probably around Thanksgiving.

Powell made an appearance as a featured speaker (he commands 18,000 big ones a speech) at Insights '95, an all-day symposium featuring well-known politicians, celebrities, and scientists held at the San Diego Convention Center, coincidentally (or not) the home of next year's GOP National Convention.

He did nothing to dissuade many of his admirers who paid top dollar to hear him speak, but insisted on pushing his new book, *My American Journey*, due out in just a few weeks. The book reportedly describes his rise from the streets of New York City to become the chief military advisor to two presidents. Powell went to great lengths, however, to assure reporters that the book "will include a lot of chitchat about various political things, and commentary in the book will no doubt fuel the political issues of 'Will he or won't he, is he or isn't he,' and this that and the other thing." Powell further teased reporters when he said he could "think of only one or two titles" that are better than the title of "Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff."

Meanwhile, poll after poll shows that the USA's best-known military figure, the retired Army General Powell, could win the presidency if he chose to run. In addition, a number of influential magazines and newspapers have lately urged a Powell entry into the presidential race, not the least of them *The New York Times*, *The Washington Times*, *Time* magazine, and *The New Republic*, as well as powerful columnists like William Rusher, Clarence Page, and others. I certainly have no idea whether or not the immensely popular retired general will succumb to a hell of a lot of pressure, particularly from those who like neither President Bill Clinton nor Bob Dole, but if this guy does throw his hat into the race, either as a Republican or Independent, sell the house and parlay the money on Colin Powell becoming the next president of the United States.

More presidential gossip: the first evidence of political dividends from California Governor Pete Wilson's very public rebuke of affirmative action is in: a new



Photo: Rick Gerharter

Kristine Silva spoke in honor of her son Derek Silva at an August 4 naming of the Derek Silva Community House for PWAs.

Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll this week has doubled his standing to ten percent (the same poll had him at only five percent in May). Nothing the Wilson camp should be shouting about, but at least it is an upward move while the political fortunes of Bob Dole and Phil Gramm, according to the same poll, have dropped a bit.

Then there's Ross Perot. The Texan with an ego larger than his wallet, who garnered 19 million votes in 1992, is holding a gathering of presidential wannabes in Dallas this weekend, saying he "hopes to bring Democrats and Republicans together," adding that "I will, in the strongest terms, say, 'Let's try to make the two-party system work.'"

Most presidential hopefuls won't dare to miss Perot's get-together, but they all suspect it is nothing more than a publicity stunt by the billionaire to somehow further his own presidential plans. (Translation: look for Perot to claim the gathering a "failure among the Washington politicians" and promptly declare that he probably will run.)

Politics and People

Katherine Feinstein, Angela Bradstreet, and Cynthia Choy Ong are among those hosting a cocktail party/re-election fundraiser for Mayor Frank Jordan August 22, 6-8 p.m. at 2646 Broderick Street. Call 989-1600, extension 467 for info.

Last Saturday night I ran into Willie Brown campaigning on Castro Street, at exactly the same time Mayor Jordan was receiving a friendly reception from the Union Street crowd. And, in case this needs to be said about Frank Jordan, Angela Alioto, Willie Brown, and Roberta Achtenberg, here goes: they're all good people; let's try to keep the mud-slinging out of this one.

Will Mimi Farina challenge John Burton for the Demo nomination to retiring State Senator Milton Marks's state senate seat? If so, look for her famous sister, Joan Baez, to campaign for her, though Baez lives in Woodside

and cannot vote for Mimi. By the way, if there is a nicer man in California politics than Milton Marks, I have yet to meet him.

The opposite could be said about our Attorney General Dan Lungren. After he got caught with his anti-gay political pants down, Lungren reluctantly removed a case from one of his deputy attorney generals who referred to homosexuals "nasty habits" and appeared to compare gays to criminals while filing a brief assailing gays in defending a soldier's discharge. Make no mistake about it, folks, Lungren thinks *everything* about gays and lesbians is "nasty."

The *Chron's* Matier & Ross column points out that Peter Keane, the number two man in Jeff Brown's Public Defenders office, has become somewhat of a celebrity as KPXX-TV's resident O.J. Simpson expert; perhaps telegraphing his Public Defender mode, Keane says he thinks Simpson will be "acquitted," and thank you, Mr. Impartial Expert.

Yup, that block-long white stretch limo spotted in the Castro Saturday night, after stopping at Planet Hollywood and Johnny Love's on Polk, was carrying star rocker Courtney Love and some of her Hollywood hangers-on.

Former superstar Cher told Hollywood reporters that she's now comfortable talking about the fact that daughter Chastity Bono, 26, is a lesbian. Cher says, "I'm absolutely fine with it, I'm proud of her, she writes for the *Advocate* all the time. I said to her recently I didn't know I was raising a gay activist, but I guess that's what's supposed to be." Cher did say, however, "it's one thing to be completely liberal when it doesn't affect you," adding that "it's a difficult thing for a parent, and Chastity had a tough time coming out because she didn't want to hurt her dad, [Sonny Bono, now a conservative GOP member of Congress from Palm Springs], or me." Cher added that "I know people all feel this way about their kids, but I have never known anybody nicer than my daughter; she's a fine person, and I am so proud of her." ▼



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Photo: Rick Gerharter

Study War No More

Peace organizers held a silent vigil at the U.C. Berkeley campus last week to mark the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and to protest the U.C.'s contract with Lawrence Livermore Lab, which continues to provide nuclear weapons research and war-related work.

Recycled voters

by Elissa G. Perry

Not so long ago, in fact a couple of weeks ago, I was assaulted by a "factoid." One of those "I read recently ... I forget if it was in *The Nation* or *Ms.* or *Utne Reader*, but anyway ..." factoids. It was hurled by a friend in the middle of an idealistic conversation we were having about the political future.

"There just can't be that many

motion, her foam mustache disappearing with a swipe of her tongue. She leaned back and took a drag of her cigarette.

"What?!" I screamed.

She laughed at my reaction. "I know, scary, huh? I read it in one of the things my parents get for me. I think it was *The Nation*."

"Oh my god. That's crazy." I continued to stare at her, my mouth hanging open in disbelief. I looked around the bar and closed my mouth. I believed her. First of all because she was constantly reading nonfiction, books, newspapers, anything. I imagined her intensely reading whatever she could get her hands on, her gaze boring holes through texts.

Going through the motions

And secondly, upon taking a minute to think about, it was easy to believe. When I worked in Union Square, there were recycling bins. "Cans and Bottles Only Please — No Paper Trash." "Paper Only, Please — Colored OK." And for the most part people used them properly. Yet many of these people do not use our governmental system at all, let alone properly.

The last fall that I worked in that department store, it was the 1992 presidential election. It was a slow day. The Back-to-School shopping season was over, and the Christmas shopping season was

not quite underway. Someone told a story about going to vote, which sparked a conversation about voting. We would soon discover that only nine of the 15 of us present had voted. And for four of those who voted, the youngest of whom was 22, it had been the first time.

I left the bar that day in a new and overwhelming mind-set. Our cynical and somewhat comic theory about an apathetic world, once proven, was not so funny. Since then, every time I've seen someone recycling, I have wanted to ask them, "Do you vote?"

The two people I actually asked both said no. When I inquired as to why they did not vote, they both seemed to feel that the government holds elections just to go through the motions. No one's opinion really matters unless they have money to back it up, was their general sentiment. I hung my head low, unable to respond.

I agree with them on some level, but I'm not ready to give up. What would it take for them to change their minds? We have recently been involved in several wars to some degree, have felt the vice grip of an economic recession ... the list of reasons not to be apathetic goes on and on.

I can't say that I have much faith that being able to register to vote at the DMV will make that much of a difference, but perhaps I will be happily proven wrong. ▼

Gay Chorus, AIDS Quilt Join 'Until There's a Cure'

by Kent Brandley

A large gay/lesbian presence is guaranteed at the second "Until There's A Cure Day" at Candlestick Park this Sunday, August 13: the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco will be performing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" during the seventh inning stretch.

Pre-game ceremonies, before the Giants take on the Chicago Cubs at 1:05 p.m., will open with sections of *The Names Project* Quilt being unfurled on the field. Angelie Diya, a Florida girl who has been HIV-positive since her birth 11 years ago, and who received national attention as the

subject of the recent prime-time CBS television special *Before Your Eyes: Angelie's Secret*, will be among dignitaries participating in pre-game ceremonies.

So far the Giants are still the only pro sports team to have an AIDS awareness day. Last year, a crowd of more than 50,000 generated over \$115,000 for the AIDS war at the first AIDS benefit game ever staged by a professional sports team.

Six Bay Area non-profit AIDS organizations will receive funds from this year's event proceeds. These include *The Names Project* High School Quilt Program, *Project Open Hand*, UCSF AIDS Program at San Francisco General Hospital, Contra Costa County

AIDS Project, San Mateo County AIDS Program and La Clinica de la Raza in Oakland.

Fifty percent of funds raised will be shared equally by these six groups, while the remaining 50 percent will go to national AIDS vaccine development.

This year Coors Brewing Company has heavily sponsored the game, as part of which it donated \$2,000 worth of tickets to allow 150 HIV-positive youths from Walden House to attend. ▼

For further information on the **Until There's A Cure Foundation** and its distribution of proceeds from the event, call 1-800-88UNTIL.

Pick up the Tzabaco habit

by Kent Brandlely

Finally: a mail order catalog for the gay community without rainbows and lycra! David Dow and James Neeley of Healdsburg have brought together some of the nation's top creative and fashion merchandising professionals to produce the *Tzabaco Catalog*, which they believe is exceptionally qualified to make it in the highly competitive direct mail industry. Dow says he and Neeley "wanted to create a product for the gay and lesbian community, which accurately portrays their style of living." Oh.

Sometime next month, the catalog will be released to show that gay life does indeed exist outside of major urban centers, even way up north in Healdsburg, where things are still mellow and tasteful and somewhat less complicated. (Tzabaco - pronounced za-bah'-koh - was chief of the Pomo Indians who inhabited Sonoma County, in case you are wondering. And not to be confused with hot sauce.)

Part of the appeal of Dow and Neeley's catalog is that it is populated by lovers Mike and Alex and their dog Bob, pictured as they start their weekend jaunt to the hills. The main characters of the new catalog are young enough to be interesting, old enough to be comfortable, the kind of guys who prefer simplicity to extravagance and practicality to excess, and the kind who share a weekend home in the country.

They are also, regrettably,

totally fake. Except for Bob the dog.

In reality, Mike and Alex are just two handsome total strangers, models who were chosen - among other reasons - because they had no problems embracing each other. Apparently some earlier models refused.

"We had models walk off the set when they found out they would have to embrace another man, there was such a fear of being pegged as gay - and this in San Francisco!" Dow exclaimed.

Oh, well, male models may not

OUT for business

be what they were, and Mike and Alex may not be what they seem, but Tzabaco merchandise can be believed: it expresses a simple style of country living, with products that are well-made and practical.

The first 24-page full-color trend-setting Tzabaco catalog offers 86 items, with an average retail price of \$60. Products include apparel, accessories, gifts, and home furnishings, as well as tabletop items and packaged specialty foods.

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To request a catalog phone 1-800-856-1667 or write to Tzabaco, 320 Center Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448 and identify yourself as a reader

of the B.A.R.

ANGLES angling for members

ANGLES, the gay and lesbian employee group of Andersen Consulting (the largest consulting firm in the world, with about 30,000 employees) and Arthur Andersen & Co., S.C. (one of the largest accounting firms in the world, with another 30,000 employees), is looking for new members, says Terry Rouman of ANGLES.

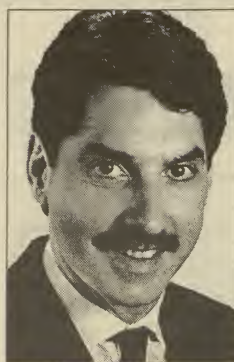
ANGLE boosters prefer to get calls from people within the company and not from job seekers: thus the somewhat strange contact info listed below. With a built-in population of 60,000 they have no need for outside numbers.

For more information contact Terry Rouman at Andersen Octel node 495, Ext. 8058.

Docent exposure

In a city famous for its more than 14,000 beautiful Victorian houses, only one San Francisco real estate salesman - Roland Jadryev, a sales associate with Mason McDuffie Real Estate Inc. - completed the recent rigorous training program at the St. Francis Hotel led by antique home specialists from the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C.

Jadryev is now certified to market antique homes: in this case,



Roland Jadryev

defined as a home built 50 years ago or before. No antique himself, Jadryev acknowledges that "antique is a real broad category," which may be why prices also cover a broad range.

"A vintage cottage - a simple structure that would qualify as an antique property - with very small square footage, found mostly in Noe Valley, might go for as little as \$250,000," he says. From there the antique houses can go up to the millions. One magnificent antique home he showed recently, on Clay in Pacific Heights, survived the 1906 earthquake and dates back to 1870.

Jadryev serves on the Golden Gate Business Association board and is director of education for

GGBA, the lesbian/gay Chamber of Commerce in San Francisco. He is also a *docent* (a fancy word for guides and explainers in art galleries, etc.) for the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage, where he teaches others about the rich legacy of Bay Area housing.

Jadryev works at gay-friendly Mason McDuffie, located at 2200 Union Street in the city. The oldest real estate company in the Bay Area, Mason McDuffie is a somewhat distinguished antique itself - established in 1887 - that now has over 50 real estate offices and 1,400 sales associates and employees.

You can call Roland Jadryev at (415) 921-0113, Ext. 122.

GGBA Update

Golden Gate Business Association will elect new board members on October 17, and nominations must be received by September 26, according to *Gateway*, the GGBA newsletter for August. Two open positions - director of coalition development and director of special events - will be filled after the October election. Tony Vedda, GGBA executive director, told the *B.A.R.* The July *Gateway* also calls attention to the Small Business Network, which is an umbrella organization of 12 San Francisco business organizations, co-founded by GGBA in 1984.

For information on GGBA call (415) 441-3651. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SF Dad Fights To Have Gay Son's Death Investigated

by Dennis Conkin

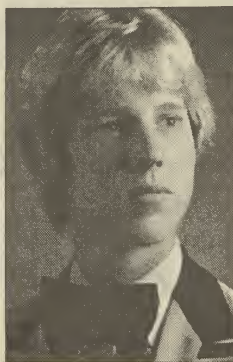
A San Francisco dentist has contacted Senator Dianne Feinstein's office for help in answering questions about the 1985 death of his son, a gay U.S. Army private, by apparent suicide at the Presidio. Dr. Kenneth Kumpf hopes that Feinstein's office will be more helpful than the Army in "getting to the bottom" of what he worries "may be a cover-up" of the sexual assault and possible murder of his son Aaron.

"When Aaron died, a part of me died with him," Kumpf told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "and I'm not going to stop asking questions until I get somewhere. I'm not convinced it was suicide. I have an open mind, but I want to see all the information."

Aaron Kumpf's body was found on November 15, 1985 at the foot of a portion of the Golden Gate Bridge that runs over the Presidio Army Base. A suicide note was found in Aaron's room in a psychiatric ward at Letterman Army Hospital, where he had been hospitalized.

Since then his father has contacted several Congressional representatives and Army officials for assistance, with only modest success, and has spent thousands of dollars over the years on investigators, forensic experts, and attorney fees attempting to find out exactly how his son came to die.

Aaron had been hospitalized initially at Kennar Army Community Hospital in Fort Lee, Virginia in July, 1985 after an AWOL incident in which he was found wandering aimlessly and confused at a New York City airport terminal. After a brief trip home to visit his parents in Napa the same month, Aaron returned to Ft. Lee, where he grew increasingly disoriented and confused. He was found wandering in the woods talking to himself, and spoke of hearing voices telling him that he was bad or that he was going to die, according to an Army medical record reviewed by



Aaron Kumpf

the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"I think I'm losing my mind," Aaron told one doctor, admitting to "fears of being harassed by a group in society called Darkness who try to mess with my mind." An examining KACH psychiatrist noted "racing thoughts, paranoid ideation and 'fears of having to kill myself to escape this group.'" He escaped once from the hospital's closed ward and was transferred to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., where he had been given the diagnosis of "schizophreniform disorder," a mental illness.

But by the time of his transfer to the Presidio's Letterman, Aaron's mental condition had apparently improved; all prescribed medication, including the strong anti-psychotic drug Haldol, had been discontinued a week before his death.

In fact, LAH nursing chart notes taken the day Aaron died declared that he was "doing better, was more energetic and more appropriate" and "attending and participating in activities without difficulty," was not a "management problem," and "was bright on approach."

Condition Improved

Especially puzzling to Kumpf is that although the provisional autopsy clearly indicates that at the time of his death Aaron had evidence of a sexually-related rectal trauma—as does a photographic autopsy record he later obtained under the Freedom of Information Act—the final official anatomical diagnoses makes no mention of the injury described in the original report as "located 1 cm from the anal verge at 9 o'clock (12 o'clock being anterior), a 1 cm linear abrasion."

"In addition, there is a 3 mm laceration present at the anal verge at the 12 o'clock position. Several smaller 1 to 2 mm excoriated areas are present in the 3 to 9 o'clock areas between the anal verge and the subcutaneous junction."

The rectal trauma detailed in the autopsy is consistent with sexual assault, Kumpf says, and since Aaron had been hospitalized at Letterman Army Hospital since his August 1985 transfer from Walter Reed, he wonders whether his son was raped, and whether his death was really suicide—or homicide.

Kumpf especially wants to know what happened to an anal swab taken during the autopsy, and whether it showed the pres-

ence of semen that would document sexual activity or rape.

"This has been terrible. I think about it every day," Kumpf told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "When the Army refuses to give information, even when ordered by Congress, it makes you want to get to the bottom of it."

He maintains the Army has not yet given him all pertinent information about his son's emotional situation and death. He also wants to know the results of HTV-III tests, which were precursors to HIV tests, and hepatic screen tests given to Aaron as physicians unsuccessfully tried to resuscitate him in the emergency room.

The last psychiatric nursing note in Aaron's medical chart is dated November 15: "Notified by Emergency Room that patient pronounced dead as a result of multiple trauma."

Unanswered questions

Kumpf says that he also learned after his son's death that Aaron would have been discharged from the Army because he was gay—after having previously been initially told in vague terms only that his son had a "personality problem" the Army couldn't help him with.

"I didn't not know he was gay," Kumpf told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "If I had, I know he would not have been in the military. He never discussed it with the family."

"I had no opposition to him being gay," he said, adding that Aaron was under the Army's medical care, whatever his sexual orientation; from a legal point of view, many unanswered questions remain.

"The case has been reviewed by an attorney, and the attorney said that the evidence didn't indicate suicide," Kumpf said. "But we have a case either way. He was a definite risk for suicide. Aaron shouldn't have been allowed off that ward." He told the B.A.R. that the psychiatric ward had a desk with monitors stationed at the entrance, and he has no idea why Aaron's departure was not stopped.

Aaron was maintained on an "S-phase status" on the inpatient ward, which only allowed him off the ward in the company of a patient of higher status, who was closer to being discharged.

Self-inflicted deaths are the third leading cause of death in the military, according to Department of Defense statistics, but reports last year by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* suggest military investigators ruled the deaths of at least 40 soldiers as suicides—despite evidence that some were killed. The newspaper reviewed the investigations after being contacted by the soldier's relatives, many of whom are members of the "Until We Have Answers" support group.

According to the *Inquirer*, investigators failed to perform routine forensic tests, lost or destroyed other evidence, and misquoted witnesses in reaching their conclusions in many of the cases.

From October 1979 to June 1993, the military ruled 3,375 deaths as suicides, compared to 1,460 murders. The civilian rate is about eight murders to every ten suicides in an average year, according to the report. ▼

YDIVE? YNOT?

Sky High Drop-Outs Raise Money for Gay L.A. Youth

by Kent Brandley

The Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, the oldest and largest such organization in the world, can never be accused of being stodgy or unimaginative when it comes to raising funds to meet the needs of gay and lesbian youth in L.A.

On Saturday, August 19, an estimated 600 daring individuals will soar over the Mojave Desert as participants in YDIVE—one of the most unique and spectacular charitable events in American history, said Jim Key, director of communications for the LA Gay and Lesbian Center.

Key told the B.A.R. that more than 450 people, each of whom have raised \$750 or more in pledges, have already signed on—most of them first-time skydivers. The goal is to raise about a quarter of a million dollars for youth services at the L.A. Center.

"On any given day or night there are an estimated 10,000 to 20,000 youth living on the streets in Los Angeles," said Lorri L. Jean, executive director of the

Gay and Lesbian Center. "The center provides vital, often life-saving support to the 30 to 50 percent of these youth who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual and have been forced onto the streets due to homophobia in their homes, schools, and communities," Jean said.

The L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center's youth services department provides the most comprehensive range of services for lesbian and gay youth in the nation, Key indicated, including a 24-bed transitional shelter, food, clothing, club and street outreach, case-management, counseling, HIV/AIDS prevention and education, referrals, and support services.

Funds from YDIVE will also support a special Youth HIV Clinic, created to address the growing needs of young people with HIV.

An all-day event, YDIVE follows a kick-off breakfast in Los Angeles. Participants will travel by chartered bus to California City Skydive Center in the Mojave Desert, 100 miles east of

Los Angeles. The center is the largest student jump site in the nation.

Participants in groups of five to ten will be carried aloft to make static line parachute jumps back to earth—some 3,500 feet—after which they will join a huge celebration with fellow divers and volunteers. A U.S. Parachute Association-certified jump master will accompany each group, and each parachute will be released automatically when the diver exits the aircraft.

Participants will complete a four-hour training seminar prior to the dive and will be required to pass an exam.

"With the opening of the Youth HIV Clinic and the Drop-in Center, the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center is breaking new ground—locally and nationally—in providing extensive and much-needed support to homeless, runaway and throwaway youth," Key said. ▼

You can still register for the event, pledge money to a diver, or volunteer. Call (213) GO YDIVE or (213) 469-3483.



Disneyland 'Do' Commemorates Ejection of Gay Couple in 1980

by Kent Brandley

These days the Walt Disney Company has a reputation as a fairly gay-positive company, but that was not always the case. For 27 years same-sex couples were forbidden to dance at Disneyland. Tinkerbell did her fairy dance, but alone.

On September 13, 1980, Andrew Exler and Shawn Elliott were removed from Tomorrowland Terrace and thrown out of Disneyland—"the Happiest Place on Earth"—after disco dancing together. Rather than skulk off in shame, Exler fought the ban, until it was overturned in 1984 by an Orange County Superior Court.

Now Exler, who has since changed his full legal name to "Crusader," has announced a party at Disneyland on Saturday, September 9 to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the human rights victory.

"Join your lesbian sisters and brothers in unity, dancing the night away where it all began: Tomorrowland Terrace. Dancing starts at 7:30 p.m. to live 'pop 40' bands," Crusader says.

Crusader will personally greet guests at the party at "The Wishing Well," located at the southeast side of the castle in Fantasyland. Disneyland itself is located in Anaheim.

"This is an informal gathering," according to Crusader, "and not a Disneyland-sanctioned event."

He urges celebrants "to wear clothing and/or buttons representing lesbian pride, such as a rainbow flag, pink triangle, or Lambda." ▼

For further information contact Crusader at (619) 778-3869.

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Tsunami Erupts in Good, Clean, Healthy Fun

by Kent Brandley

"Tsunami: a great sea wave produced by submarine earth movement or volcanic eruption."

— Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary.

What do you call about 100 mostly gay people in a San Francisco pool? Tsunami. At least, that's what you call the swim team that was formed here after Gay Games II, which is still having a whale of a good time nine years later.

Tsunami, part of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's Masters Swimming Program, which in turn is part of a nationwide network, is comprised mostly of Bay Area gay men — plus some swimmers with lower numbers on the Kinsey scale. According to Todd Hill, one of four Tsunami coaches, about a quarter of the team is female, "but we're really looking to get more women involved."

Every two months the team has a social event of some kind, the next of which is a lake swim Sunday, August 20, at Lake Del Valle, near Livermore. Other recent summertime events have included white river rafting, kayaking, and a barbecue, but perhaps their most visible activity this summer was during the gay



Photo: Phil Migliarese Jr.

Tsunami swim team, an association of gay and lesbian swimmers of all ages, practices at Hamilton Pool (Steiner & Post) Monday through Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

pride parade, when members marched wearing swim trunks. "We did sort of a silly swimming dance," Hill laughed. Whatever they did, they drew applause — and more than a few admiring glances.

Swimming is a sport that knows no age limits, with some enthusiasts competing well into their 90's, Hill says. However, the average age of Tsunami members is considerably younger than that,

around 32, with current members as young as 22 and as old as 60. And more are eagerly sought, he told the *B.A.R.*, whatever their level of expertise: "Anybody who can swim a couple of laps should be encouraged to come out and try it."

"Tsunami presents an interesting mix of people, some of whom are there just for fitness, some of whom are there because it is a

social thing, and some of whom are there preparing for competition," he said.

Earning titles, destroying labels

Ah, yes, the competition. Through the years many members have held gay games records, and rankings, according to Hill. Tsunami has enjoyed much success at the International Gay and Lesbian Aquatic championships (IGLA); about 25 Tsunami swimmers will compete at this October's IGLA meet in Montreal, hoping to win the small team championship as they have in the past.

Hill explained as a gay man and as one of the Tsunami Swim Team coaches (the others are Cris Allen, Marta Kreps, and Joe Healy) what is the best thing for him about being a member: "It's most powerful to go to a mainstream straight swim meet with a team that is openly gay," he said. "It's the ultimate coming out experience."

"You can reclaim your life in this way, by being able to compete as an openly gay person and member of Tsunami."

"Going to gay meets is also a great thrill, because you have an opportunity to integrate the athletic side of your life and your gay cultural identity."

Hill has won gold medals and other medals at the Gay Games, and won the 50 backstroke and 400 freestyle events at IGLA events in 1993. But as nice as medals are, he stresses other benefits.

"We're providing a great opportunity for people to swim and maintain their health and fitness," he said, "and given the AIDS crisis I think it's great to be able to participate in such a fine sport."

Unfortunately, since Tsunami normally practices at a city-owned recreation facility, budget cuts threaten the club's future.

"One of the things the club comes up against is a lot of cuts in city programs — constantly having to negotiate to maintain our training hours — and we face a constant threat of having our hours cut right before important competitions," Hill told the *B.A.R.*

Tsunami members normally practice at Hamilton Pool, located on Steiner at Post. Practices are now scheduled Monday through Thursday 7:30 to 9 p.m., and on Saturdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m., but those hours will change at the end of the summer.

"When our hours change, we lose people," Hill explained. "When the city changes our hours it always takes time to build the membership back up, as people are fitting swimming into their busy schedules." ▼

Persons interested in joining Tsunami may call (415) 221-9549, or drop by the pool at one of the work-out times.

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Bowl your way to Amsterdam in '98

A Gateway to the Games

In the summer of 1994 a small but dedicated group of San Francisco bowlers entered into a discussion about the upcoming Gay Games V and how best to prepare its community for this international athletic event. Out of that dialogue evolved Amsterdam '98, an ABC-sanctioned savings league as developed by a special committee and spearheaded by the Secretary/Treasurer Chuck Vrana. When asked what the response had been to the plan and how significantly it would impact on off-setting travel expenses, Chuck remarked, "Anyone who participates in this program, as scheduled for the next several seasons, should save approximately \$1,500-1,600 by 1998. That should cover the major expenses such as air, hotel and entries. At least half the league is participating right now, that in itself speaks for the program."

Although, little did the Amsterdam Board realize just how popular this concept would be to the SF bowling community. The first season was off to a conservative start with only eight (5-person) teams represented. But due to the recruitment and advertising methods of the Co-chair Sam Kipu, Amsterdam '98 would soon witness significant growth. As the excitement and word spread, the success of the league was slowly becoming apparent. Now in its second season, when most leagues were losing members to the summer break, Amsterdam '98 managed to not only forge ahead, but increase its membership.

By all accounts, this trend is

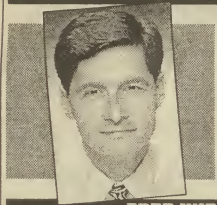
expected to continue well into the next five seasons, hopefully amounting to a 20-team league. "When momentum like this and expansion to include the Sacramento, San Jose and Fresno communities where bowling is equally abundant, we're likely to be one of the largest contingents competing at the Games," as predicted by Rudy Maglenty, a key organizer and advisor to the Amsterdam Board.

"In other words," as Cathy Patterson, the savvy and devoted Sergeant-at-Arms chimes in, "a 100-member contingent of highly charged bowlers from the San Francisco Bay Area can be expected to touch down in the Netherlands." That was music to the ears of Chairman E. Miguel Thurman, who summed it up best by saying, "Amsterdam '98 was once only a vision, but as a reality this collection of diverse and yet cohesive competitors are certain to be a force of reckoning at Gay Games V. We're off to a great start with nowhere to go but up!"



For more information, call Dean Tyrrell at 921-6200.

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GLAAD

Gay ad vantages

by Al Kielwasser

There are for a little transphobia with your tequila? You can get a big unhealthy shot in the new full-page ad for Sauza "Commemorative" Tequila, which features a photograph of an attractive, bikini-clad woman bearing this text across her breasts: "She's a he."

Beneath the photo, the ad explains, "Life is harsh. Your tequila shouldn't be."

Transgendered people do not make life "harsh" — transphobic people do. This company would not (one hopes) even consider using the same image with a slogan like "She's a Jew ... Life is harsh." Sauza's toast to transphobia is no less bigoted or unacceptable.

A much more positive image can be found in the new print campaign from Diesel, a "jeans and workwear" company. Diesel's two-page spread is dominated by a photograph of a Navy ship arriving at home port. "Peace At Last," "Welcome Home Boys," and "Victory!" signs rise above the cheering crowd, as streamers and confetti fill the air. Aboard ship, a row of sailors wave to the cheering on-lookers. In the photo's foreground, two male sailors stand on the dock, embracing in a passionate lip-to-lip kiss. Both of the men are outfitted in traditional Navy garb; a bouquet of flowers is held in one sailor's hand, which he wraps around his lover's back.

This simple yet provocative image of gay love is the focal point of Diesel's advertisement. Setting aside legitimate concerns about military fetishism, the ad nevertheless portrays an act that most mainstream media (and audiences) still abhor.

Another full page ad, printed in the July 7 issue of *USA Today*, paints a cozy picture of a far less laudable couple. This advertisement quotes (in very large type) the words of Dan Evins, President of the Cracker Barrel company. In a pitch for his own company as well as American Express, Evins says: "Pleasing people, honesty, trust, value, a hearty meal, a welcoming smile. ... That's what we wish to be about. And our relationship with American Express fits that pretty well." The ad includes the familiar American Express charge card icon and "Don't Leave Home Without It" slogan.

It is ironic — to say the least — that Evins should speak about "honesty," "trust," and a "welcoming smile." His chain of Cracker Barrel stores and restaurants has been notoriously homophobic. In 1990, all Cracker Barrel outlets were ordered to identify and fire lesbians and gays. After an initial witch-hunt and subsequent uproar, that directive was rescinded. Fired employees, however, were not rehired.

Unless American Express "fits pretty well" with bigotry and job discrimination, the company should leave home without Cracker Barrel.

Send appropriate comments to Janice Jarrett, Administrative Manager, Marketing Department, Domecq Importers (of Sauza Tequila), 143 Sound Beach, Old Greenwich CT 06870, tel. 203-637-6500;

Diana Loguzzo, Diesel USA Inc., 80 West 40th Street, New York NY 10018, tel. 212-575-8222, fax 212-

944-0915;

Steven Smith, Vice President of Media Advertising, American Express, Tower C, 3 World Financial Center, New York NY 10285, tel. 212-640-1494; Harvey Golub, Chairperson, American Express, 200 Vesey Street, New York NY 10285, tel. 212-640-2000 or 800-528-4800, fax 212-619-9802; Dan Evins, President & CEO, Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc., Hartmann Drive, P.O. Box 787, Lebanon TN 37088, tel. 615-444-5533 or 800-955-0121.

TV misGuided

The cover of the August 5-11 issue of *TV Guide* proclaims: "Tom Selleck Talks Tough — He's Back and He's Battling Pushy Fans, Vicious Rumors, Even Barbra Streisand!"

Inside the magazine, Mary Murphy's article ("Meet The New Tough Tom") dwells on Selleck's anger over rumors that he is gay. "What concerns him most," Murphy writes, "is that rumors that still haunt him today could hurt his child." She quotes Selleck, who — "with fire in his eyes" — explains: "I have a wife and kid, and I am not going to spit on my wife and falsify that commitment. What is implied if you're married and gay? You've got two lives. I mean, that's crazy."

Selleck also states: "I couldn't care less whether people who are gay would like me to be gay. This is not going to happen. I am as proud of my sexual preference [sic] as anyone else is. And if a gay person finds it insulting to have to stay in the closet, I find this just as insulting. It isn't anti-gay to say you are heterosexual."

No, but it is anti-gay (and hardly "tough") for Selleck to blame homosexuals — rather than homophobia — for his "predicament." And it is deeply anti-gay for *TV Guide* to label speculation about homosexuality as "vicious rumors."

Send complaints to Anthea Disney, Editor-in-Chief, *TV Guide*, Radnor PA 19088, e-mail tvgeditor@delphi.com; correspondence intended for publication should be directed to the "Letters Department" at the same address (no anonymous letters will be published).

Tetchy Tesh

Of his role in the new film *Jeffrey* (which is based on the stage play about a gay man who falls in love just as he is swearing off intimacy), actor Steven Weber declares: "If anybody is uptight about this movie, I think they have a problem." Ironically, Weber took that stand on *Entertainment Tonight* (ET), where host John Tesh has been more than a little uptight about gays lately.

On the August 2 broadcast of ET, Tesh introduced a segment on *Jeffrey* by noting: "Steven Weber is constantly looking for love on the NBC series *Wings*, and he finds it in the new movie *Jeffrey*." Pausing gravely, Tesh then intoned: "But you're in for a shock when you see who's on the other end of Steven's big movie kiss." ET showed the kiss in slow-motion (though it was unclear if the effect was intended to heighten or dampen the "shock").

Only a few weeks ago, Tesh offered equally-sensationalistic commentary for a segment dispelling the "dirty rumors" about

Keanu Reeves's sexual orientation. Unfortunately, these ET segments dance around the subject of homophobia. The *Jeffrey* segment never explored why a simple same-sex kiss is shocking stuff. Tesh could have said that *Jeffrey*'s audiences will be "in for an education." And a much-needed education at that.

Fortunately, ET did allow Weber himself to celebrate *Jeffrey* as a film that "extols love and living." Viewing the chance to play a gay man as a professional opportunity, Weber said: "I'm just an average hetero idiot male, and it was an interesting excursion into trying something different." He concluded: "A kiss is really just a kiss."

Send constructive criticism to John Tesh, Entertainment Tonight, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Hollywood CA 90038, tel. 213-956-4900, fax 213-956-4954; Support for *Jeffrey* should be directed to Len White, CEO, Orion Pictures, 1888 Century Park East, Los Angeles CA 90067, tel. 310-282-0550.

Good advice

Newspaper advice columnists are frequently asked questions about homosexuality. For the most part — unfortunately — they have tended to give fairly rotten answers.

A recent exception can be found in T. Berry Brazelton's syndicated column, "Families Today." A reader wrote to say: "I recently saw an article stating that playing with dolls may be an early indication of homosexuality among young boys. ... I feel that [my 2-year-old son's] sweet nurturing will make him a good father, and that's what I tell busybodies who make disparaging remarks about his interest in dolls."

Brazelton replied: "I agree entirely. Learning to nurture dolls ... is not sex-linked, nor is it an indication of homosexuality." Significantly, Brazelton went on to say (as the reader did not) that: "It is a symptom of our homophobic society that we dare not encourage gentleness and nurturing behavior in young males." Such a statement is certain to raise homophobic hackles, especially since it appears in a column devoted to a subject fundamentalists think they own — "Families Today."

Encouraging feedback can be sent to Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, c/o New York Times Syndicate, 122 East 42nd Street, 14th Floor, New York NY 10168, fax 212-499-3382.

Media briefs

• UNSOUND BITE ... "According to Leviticus, you filthy perverts should be executed" (An on-line message to homosexuals, posted by the "Rev." Donald Spitz — whose ironic e-mail address is ProLifeVa@aol.com). ▼

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, call the 24-hour Media Watch Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco CA 94103. Office phone: 415-861-2244. Fax: 415-861-4893. E-mail: gladsfba@aol.com. Web site: <http://www.gaytrek.com/gaytrek/glaad.html>.

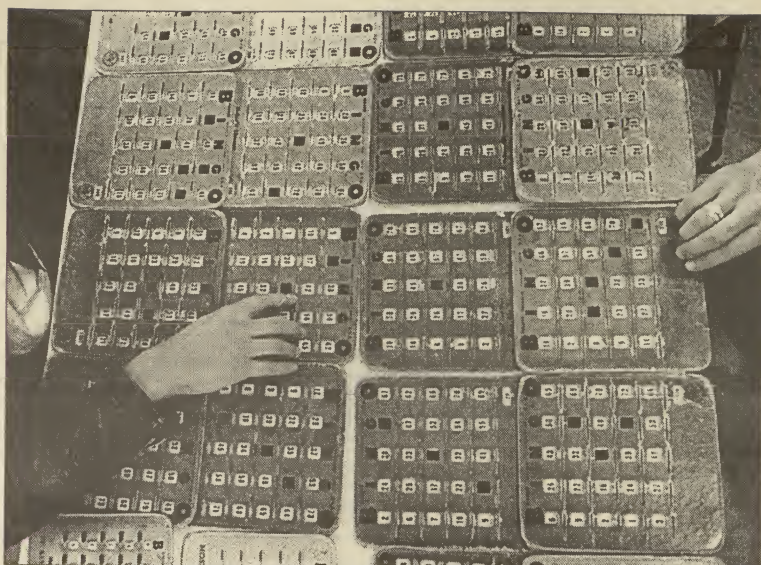


Photo: Rick Gerhart

Local charities received a total of \$16,000 raised through weekly Coming Home Hospice Bingo games.

'I love spending my money here' Under the B—16K Raised by Coming Home Hospice Bingo

by Mary Richards

Last Thursday, August 3 the basement hall at 100 Diamond Street in the Castro resounded to applause and cheers as representatives from three charities stepped onstage to receive a total of \$16,000 raised by Coming Home Hospice Bingo. Fifty percent of the second quarter proceeds was given to the hospice for which the bingo is named, and 50 percent was distributed equally between Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services and the Godfather Service Fund.

Although the game is played with fervor, and people are there to win the nearly \$3,000 in weekly payouts, the real purpose, and probably the reason for its popularity — is to raise funds in the fight against AIDS. Since 1986, when the idea of bingo was promoted as a way to make money for the renovation of a convent into a hospice, an annual average of \$64,000 has been donated to AIDS-related services.

Other organizations that have been the beneficiaries include the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the AIDS Emergency Fund, AIDS Foundation Food Bank, Project Open Hand, the Most Holy Redeemer Support Group, Maitri AIDS Hospice, and PAWS.

Not grandma's game

Coming Home Hospice Bingo is in a class all by itself. As Jim De Tore, one of the volunteers, says, "This isn't the bingo your grandmother played!" Noticeably missing is the solemn hush that pervades those other bingo halls as people wait for winning numbers to be called. This game takes place in the heart of the Castro — it's noisy, it's fun, and players get to participate at every level.

There are "theme" nights, when volunteers and players dress to suit the occasion, whether it's leather or Easter bonnets, to riotous effect. Even in the more "normal" games, it is traditional for everyone to join in a response to the call of number 22 with a high-pitched sing-song chorus of

"Tu-tu, tu-tu." And, as one might suspect, the number 69 brings out an extraordinary response from the crowd — something between shocked squeals and the call of the wild.

Players come in every shape, size, age, and gender. Alyson Kelloway was the lucky Bingo Queen last Thursday, which is to say she won the first game of the evening. Resplendent in a pink feathered tiara denoting her new status, she told the B.A.R., "I always have fun coming here, but this is my first win ever. I am the Queen tonight, I'm having a wonderful time."

Former volunteer Scott Douglass, sitting nearby, was also a winner. "They graciously paid me \$200," he said. "This is the greatest place to be, because the money goes to the best cause in the world, giving a bit of respite to those who are not faring so well."

"I love spending my money here. I know where it goes, and the people who take care of this are a tremendous group to be associated with."

Community feel

The bingo is run as a totally non-profit venture. Co-chairs Michael Corral and Bill Hargrove, along with volunteer coordinator Bart Shulman, lead a group of nearly 60 people who do everything and anything to help out. They serve and clean behind the snack bar; go up and down the aisles selling pull tabs and intermission games; call the winning numbers; and make sure that players receive assistance during the games. New volunteers are always welcome, says Hargrove. "Some people come every week, every other week, or once a month. They choose their own schedule — they tell us when they can work and we give them a job."

Don Pence has been a volunteer for nearly six years. "One thing nice about volunteering here at Bingo is that it provides an outlet for people who cannot deal one-on-one with AIDS patients for whatever reason," he says,

"and this way they can be of some assistance."

"Our bingo has a real community feel to it."

Retailers in the Castro have responded to that feeling, and frequently contribute whatever they can. Through the years Suzanne's Muffins has provided nearly 14,000 delicacies, and each week Welcome Home restaurant donates a gift certificate for two meals.

Loyalty among players at the Thursday night games is legendary. The same people come week after week, throughout the years, to contribute to AIDS groups and support Coming Home Hospice, which is located across the street from the bingo hall. Nurse Janet Spelman, who accepted the check for the hospice, observed, "Because of Coming Home Hospice Bingo, people with terminal illness can get the care, with dignity, that everyone deserves."

Although Bingo has a large male population that participates, more women are joining in. Janet Feeny volunteers at the bingo pro shop, which sells intermission specials and markers for the games.

"Being around the people who are customers is a priority," she says. "I am really impressed by the contributions that are given back by players after they win a game. When players give back whatever they can it never fails to show me that there are still people in our environment who are openly generous and warm."

"They give not only from their heart and soul, but from their finances that we all struggle and work so hard for." ▼

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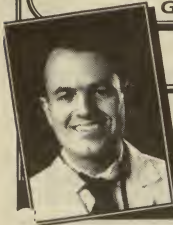
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Housing

Continued from page 1

Community Development officials and those at the Oakland Housing Authority officials confirmed to the B.A.R. that, despite a more than \$2.2 million housing and community development loan from the state in 1992 for seismic repairs and overall rehabilitation, it is still only "marginally habitable."

That's a diplomatic way of saying the six-story building located at 1445 Harrison Street, near downtown Oakland, is a dump.

Scot-free owners

One problem, said one county housing official, is that despite frequent demands for greater safety precautions and for repairs and upgrades, vaguely written contractual agreements between the owners and grantors make it easy for recalcitrant landlords to get off scot-free.

A 1993 contract reached between HUD and Shelter Plus Care stated that approximately \$2.5 million covering a ten-year period would be paid out monthly towards Section 8 rental payments to owners of Coit Apartments. Clients find out about Coit and other Shelter Plus Care programs through 11 non-profit agencies, spread throughout the county. The program provides support services and affordable housing to individuals who are homeless and HIV-positive, substance abusers, or mentally impaired.

Many see it as an ideal way to house the multi-diagnosed HIV/AIDS population in Alameda County.

Officials connected with the project told the B.A.R. at the time of McGinnis's letter their own investigation was underway; for starters, they said, they will require the owners to agree to hire a on-site management team.

Such a step is apparently very much needed, and welcomed by most residents.

On a recent visit, stops at random floors revealed a number of residents (or visitors) who were clearly stoned, according to McGinnis, on crack. "I'm tired of it," said one woman, as she finished her trip down six flights of stairs.

Currently, of 32 units tied to Shelter Plus Care at Coit Apartments, 20 tenants live there; additionally 53 additional units are under rehabilitation for the "general" homeless population.

There are currently 8,300 units in the Section 8 program in Oakland, for various types of homeless populations, according to a spokesperson with the Oakland Housing Authority. Inspections are required before a lease is ever signed.

One resident told the B.A.R. during a recent visit that the only alternative he was offered was the California Hotel, which he described as "worse than the Coit." Less than one block away from Coit Apartments, 59 homeless people with dual diagnoses are scheduled to be housed at the Harrison Hotel, under similar funding by Shelter Plus Care. ▼

Security

Continued from page 1

tion whose members must often obtain security clearances for their work, also praised the action and observed, "Sexual orientation has nothing to do with one's trustworthiness."

'A 180 degree about-face'

Clinton's order "completes the process of removing all vestiges of anti-gay and lesbian discrimination from the process of granting security clearances at the federal level," claimed Congressman Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts).

"This has done something we could not have conceived of years ago," said Frank Kameny, whose denial of a security clearance in 1957 led him to champion that cause for nearly four decades. "It not [only] gets the government to pull back its claws as an active, hostile adversary, but to do a 180 degree about-

face and offer actual affirmative protection."

However, Kameny acknowledged, he harbors some reservations as well: the administration has refused to rescind the 1953 executive order 10450, which labels "sexual perversion" — a code word for homosexuality — as grounds for denial of a security clearance. Furthermore, the new order defers to older orders when there are conflicts between them.

"The question becomes what you get when some homophobic agency security clearance director decides to invoke that," Kameny observed, adding that he is "left uneasy by that sort of thing."

He counsels "vigilance."

Moreover, it should be stressed, lesbians and gays should exercise some caution — and avoid the closet. While sexual orientation alone may no longer serve as the basis for denial of a security clearance, lying about it can be. Living the kind of life where one is, or appears to be, ashamed of one's orientation may well be interpreted as grounds for potential blackmail, and hence denial of clearance. ▼

Murder

Continued from page 1

killed Wilson by striking her in the head approximately 15 times with "a blunt object" sometime between 8:15 and 9 a.m.

Outside the courtroom on Tuesday, Detective Jeff Carroll said the investigation is ongoing, and confirmed that investigators have not been able to find a murder weapon. "The weapon hasn't been found. It

could be anything — a stick, a bar, a bat, anything."

After the arraignment, Hugh Levine, a private San Francisco attorney who is defending Robbins, said that Robbins was at Wilson's home on the morning of her death and did indeed call 911. He declined comment, however, on why Robbins was with Wilson on the morning of her death.

Deputy District Attorney Kevin Jones appeared in high spirits about winning the case against Robbins, whose trial is scheduled to begin on November 1. "The evidence shows that she was there [at the murder scene]," he said. ▼

'Nasty Habits'

Continued from page 1

nize anything special about his own favorite nasty habits."

"In truth there is no justification for most chapters of the criminal law," Loomis wrote. "And therefore it is still OK to be 'prejudiced' or 'biased against' criminals, such as molesters and pederasts, and fire them for it."

He also argued that homosexual acts "are despised" and said that discrimination against lesbians and gays was "justified and appropriate" because voters had acted through President Clinton and Congress to "rid themselves" of openly gay military personnel.

He said that the state had no choice but to fire Holmes for violating the federal "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Holmes's lawyer Paul Wotman called the comments by Loomis "outrageously prejudiced and anti-gay" and said they reveal the extensive prejudice behind the military policy.

Loomis's comments were widely denounced after they were made public, and even Judge Armstrong expressed concerns about the remarks during a hearing last month, saying they had not gone unnoticed by the court.

Mine enemy's enemy

"I write to assure the Court that the passages suggestive of personal enmity toward the plaintiff or the plaintiff's sexual orientation do not reflect the attitude of this office. Please be assured it is not the policy of this office to advance the legal positions of its clients in terms that ridicule or personally denigrate their opponents in court," wrote Lungren's Chief Assistant Attorney General Robert Mukai.

According to Mukai, the language of the brief was not Lungren's, and the attorney general would never have used such language.

Holmes's co-counsel J. Kuo of Howard, Rice, Nemerovski, Candy, Falk and Rabkin told the *Bay Area Reporter* he was pleased that Loomis is no longer on the case.

"I'm glad he was removed; he was very difficult to deal with," Kuo said. "Let's hope he's learned a strong lesson from this. He was a loose cannon in the attorney general's office. They need to develop a procedure to ensure that people representing the state on sensitive matters have an understanding of the issues they are dealing with."

Armstrong has not yet issued a ruling in the case. ▼

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FDA and activists discuss thalidomide; trials now open

by Matthew Sharp,
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writers Pool

In the battle for AIDS treatments, no drug has been put through the wringer more than thalidomide. The tragic side of the famous drug involves the birth defects it caused in infants born to European mothers who took the drug in the late 1950s for morning sickness. The positive side is that new research into the drug may answer some vital questions about the immune system and AIDS pathogenesis.

Through wider access, more people are now using thalidomide, and improvements are being seen: it is not a cure, but it evidently can promote quality of life in people with AIDS. Gilla Kaplan, a leading researcher at Rockefeller University in New York, is doing fascinating work on using thalidomide to lower the level of TNF (tumor necrosis factor, a normal body chemical that is often excessive in HIV disease, and can then cause wasting, and also make HIV grow faster). Her recent study, finally published in *Molecular Medicine*, shows that the drug reduces TNF alpha levels in patients with TB; half of those people were also infected with HIV.

The birth defect tragedy of 40 years ago changed the approval process for drugs at the Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. regulatory agency that oversees safety and efficacy for all new drugs being marketed. The implications of the effect drugs may have on unborn fetuses have influenced the way trials are run, and have unfairly caused exclusion of pregnant and non-pregnant women in most studies, regardless of precautions and screening procedures. Consequently, this issue has delayed important therapies like thalidomide for all people with AIDS, especially women.

In the absence of FDA approval for thalidomide, over 200 people are now using it underground: local physicians who are prescribing the drug are seeing definite weight gain in almost all those patients. Granted, this is anecdotal, but *anecdotal among doctors*.

Research — there is tons of literature on thalidomide — shows that the drug is relatively safe, although toxicity in people with AIDS is less clear. Additional AIDS studies underway will further add to our knowledge of its safety. Unfortunately, enormous media coverage and widespread panic has slowed progress in development of the drug against AIDS and other diseases today.

"As long as the drug is illegal it jeopardizes all of our positions for development," said Kaplan. "Until we enroll the clinical trials and finish the studies, compassionate use will never come about."

Clinical trials open

Clinical trials of thalidomide for aphthous ulcers, weight gain, and lowering tumor necrosis factor are having difficulty enrolling in the Bay Area and across the country. Some of the trials have limiting exclusion criteria and are placebo-controlled, but if you get drug, it is free. (For more information, call 1-800 TRIALS-A.)

These studies are an important venue for access and should concurrently provide researchers with important data on thalidomide, which the FDA is demanding before approval. Thalidomide is available for people with aphthous

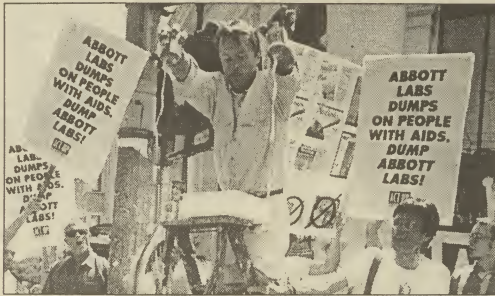


Photo: Rick Gerhart

ACT-UP/GG dumps Abbott Lab's Ensure nutritional supplement to protest Abbott's refusal to implement compassionate use programs for its new HIV drugs.

ulcers through an Emergency Release Program through the FDA — but somewhat ineffectively. Access had been problematic until buyers' clubs established an *Underground Thalidomide Compassionate Use Program* that provides drug to anyone who follows the carefully planned safety procedures.

Furthermore, ACT UP/Golden Gate is working with Healing Alternatives Foundation to monitor people on thalidomide, in order to gain important observational data that will help answer critical question on toxicities and weight gain. (This is the second Observational Data Base that ACT UP/Golden Gate has designed; the first was on d4T use.)

Recently AIDS activists met with FDA officials in Rockville, Maryland in a meeting called by the PWA Health Group in New York and Healing Alternatives from San Francisco, to alleviate the feds' concerns about underground thalidomide usage and to discuss the underground supply, procedures, and policies. The goals of the meeting, activists said, were to urge the FDA to be realistic about the potential of thalidomide and to push for compassionate use against wasting syndrome.

It was clear from the beginning of the meeting where the FDA stands: their opening statement was concerning unborn fetuses, and not access for people with AIDS.

Eventually, to stress the importance of access to thalidomide outside of placebo-controlled clinical trials, Curtis Ponzi, an attorney present on behalf of the buyers' clubs, held up the B.A.R. obituary section and said, "This is our control group."

Off-label, post-market

With all the research to be done on thalidomide, it would seem logical that the way to have access to it is through pharmacies, but given the paranoia and illegality of the drug, that may take a long time. Brenda Lein from Project Inform stated, "I'm hopeful that an NDA [New Drug Application] can be made for aphthous ulcers with expedited approval, because there is so much data in this area. This would effectively address access for people who could use the drug for weight gain by acquiring the drug off-label."

"However, if this course of action is to be taken, Andrulis [the company that makes thalidomide in the U.S.] must guarantee post-marketing studies, to ensure that the research gets done."

A few caveats: because there are women with AIDS who may want a shot at thalidomide therapy, we must acknowledge that

birth defects are a very serious issue. But with appropriate labeling and warnings thalidomide could safely be prescribed like the acne medication, Accutane, which also can cause birth defects.

There are also hints that neuropathy may be a problem for thalidomide users, as well as rashes and the masking of serious infections like tuberculosis and MAC. But even with these risks in mind, given proper vigilant monitoring, thalidomide is probably no more dangerous than other drugs.

For a while at least, media hype, regulatory roadblocks, and superstitions will prevent access to many people who need thalidomide. This is sad, but somewhat typical, in the history of AIDS drug development. ▼

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OBITUARIES

Randy LaFoon
Oct. 2, 1952 - July 30, 1995
Ted (Thomas E.) Dobbie
Aug. 24, 1956 - Nov. 6, 1994

Randy and Ted, partners for 18 years, have passed away.



Most readers remember them because of their employment at American Hawaii Cruise Lines, the Russian River, their poker and holiday parties, and for the fun they had in SF gathering places like The Transfer and Ginger's Trois. They rarely missed a 49ers game. Randy and Ted had many friends - and deserved them. Each was special.

Randy passed away from cancer due to AIDS, as did Ted, nine months earlier. Special thanks are given to Visiting Nurses/Hospice for the care, attention and emotional support they showed to family members Dee, sisters Vikki, Ziggy, and Tami, who gave hands-on support to Randy in his last days and conveyed such love. Thanks also to housemates Richard, Stuart and Michael.

Their ashes are no doubt partying in the Hawaiian islands, a vacation retreat they visited often. Lift a glass for Randy and Ted, and make a contribution to VNH. They're good guys and we're gonna miss 'em. ▼

Mikel Ambrose

March 7, 1946 - Aug. 4, 1995

Our friend Mikel died peacefully, joining his lifetime companion, Bruce Anderson, last Friday evening after a struggle with AIDS. He died at home surrounded by friends and family.

Mikel was born in Port Angeles, Washington and grew up in Denver. He received his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration at the University of Colorado, but moved west in 1968 to make San Francisco his permanent home. Mikel met Bruce in 1973 and together they formed a loving partnership that lasted until Bruce's death in January, 1992.

For 27 years Mikel managed the San Francisco office of Now Designs. Mikel loved San Francisco, the theater, reading, and long evenings with friends playing Pictionary and Samba. He was a number one fan of Beach Blanket Babylon and Val Diamond.

Mikel is survived by his mother Alice and stepfather Bob of Honolulu; his friends Nancy, Craig, Del, Dan, Duane, Adele, Patrick, Joshua, Cory and Neil; and his cousin Susie. A celebration of Mikel's life was held on Sunday, August 6, 1995. Contributions may be sent to Project Open Hand or the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. ▼

Bruce Wayne

July 31, 1995

Bruce died July 31, 1995 at Kaiser Hospital in South San Francisco of an AIDS-related illness. He was 40. A native of Kansas City, MO, Bruce resided in San Francisco for 12 years. He is survived by his father and mother, Gerald W. and Delina J. Austin of Kansas City, MO; brother Mark W. Austin; and domestic partner Jimmy Baker, Jr. Bruce was a retired Naval Officer who worked with Todd Shipyards, as a self-employed computer consultant, and Franklin Resources. Bruce was a poet and artist with a quick wit. He enjoyed philosophy, linguistics, reading, photography, camping/hiking, gourmet cooking and collecting art.

On Saturday, August 19, 2-6 p.m., friends and family will gather at his home to share in the warmth of Bruce's life. Donations can be made to the UCSF AIDS Health Project, Box 0884, SF, CA 94143-0884. ▼

Thomas Martin Mischke, Ph.D.
July 25, 1995

Thomas (Tom) Martin Mischke, age 45, died peacefully in his Foster City home on Tuesday, July 25, 1995, of AIDS-related complications. A California resident since 1973, Tom had been a Foster City resident since 1987. He lived temporarily in the Washington, D.C. area between 1994 and 1995.

Tom was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and grew up in Denver, Colorado. He received his Ph.D. in analytical chemistry from the University of California at Riverside in 1979. From 1979 to 1990, Tom was employed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture in Sacramento. From 1990 until his retirement in 1993, he was employed by the California Department of Health Services in Berkeley.

Tom is survived by his partner, Gerald N. McGill, Foster City; a brother, Dr. Charles F. Mischke, Beltsville, MD; two nephews, Jim and John Mischke. Survivors also include many loving friends and relatives. All who knew Tom will miss his smiling face, his sense of humor, his genius, and his constant caring for others.

A funeral mass will be held Saturday, August 12, at St. Luke's Catholic Church, 1111 Beach Park Blvd. (at Foster City Blvd.), Foster City, California. There will also be a Celebration of Life gathering at Gerry and Tom's home on Saturday, August 19, 1995. Memorial contributions may be made to the San Mateo County AIDS Program, 66 Bovet Road, #270, San Mateo, CA 94402. ▼

Randy Fowler

Sept. 16, 1957 - July 20, 1995

God saw he was getting tired and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around him and whispered, "Come with me." With tearful eyes we watched him suffer and saw him fade away. Although we loved him dearly, we could not make him stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hard-working hands to rest: God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.

Services were held at MCC/SF on July 22. Randy is survived by his mother and father, Betty and John Leman; his partner, Bruce DeBlase; loving friends, Dennis Babb, Jerry and Sharon; his Mom II and Papa Joe DeBlasio; and special thanks to the Westin Hotel Airport and staff.

Donations can be sent to Project Open Hand.

"Randy, I will love you always." - Bruce ▼

William J. Pearce

July 27, 1953 - July 27, 1995

Bill grew up in Palo Alto. He graduated with a degree in Education from San Francisco State University. He continued learning throughout his life. Bill had a passionate interest in teaching English as a second language and loved working with his students at the Audubon School in Foster City.

Among his many interests were collecting old comic books, opera, music, and bodybuilding. Bill was a volunteer at Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, where he'd been reorganizing the Pastor's library. He will be remembered by his many friends for his wit and love of life.

Bill is survived by his mother and stepfather, Hope and Edward Herndon of Novato; his brother Steve Pearce of Fremont; and sister Carol Pearce of Sunnyvale.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, August 12 at 1 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street. The family requests that donations be made to the William Pearce Memorial Fund for AIDS programs. ▼

David Wayne Walker
May 22, 1955 - Aug. 1, 1995

After a long and courageous battle with AIDS, David Wayne Walker died on August 1.



David was born in Lubbock, Texas on May 22, 1955. He was raised in Texas and earned a BS from Texas Tech and an MS and Ph.D. from Texas A & M.

Before moving to the East Bay in 1990, David was an Associate Professor of Horticulture at Louisiana State University.

With David at the time of his death was his partner of nine years, Keith Hamby. David is also survived by many loving friends and relatives, including his parents, Dr. and Mrs. H. Wayne Walker, his sister Linda Foster, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

David was an intense and passionate spirit, one that valued the beauty of nature. He loved his garden and the beach and adored his many cats, whom he spoiled shamelessly. David was active in the Universal Fellowship of MCC Churches and helped found its Baton Rouge branch.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 12 at 4 p.m. at MCCSF at 150 Eureka St. Donations in David's honor may be made to Project Open Hand or Project Inform. ▼

Ronald James Honeycutt

June 2, 1944 - Aug. 3, 1995

Ron died peacefully in his sleep one month after his 46th birthday. A longtime resident of Bernal Heights, Ron made friends wherever he went. He is survived by his parents, Barbara and Edwin, brothers Bob and Jim, sister Kathy Burcar, his longtime friend and companion Michael Waggener, and his devoted friend Aron Corey.

Born and raised in Michigan, Ron moved to Hawaii and then navigated to the Bay Area. He worked for Blue Cross as a claims examiner, drove a cab, and worked for many years at McKesson Corporation.

Those of us who knew Ronnie, knew his playful nature, his deep side, and his loving respect for all living things. He was many things: a die-hard "Trekkie"; a computer buff extraordinaire; a gadget freak; a bicyclist; a gardener. Ron always tried to stay busy. In the end, AIDS-related dementia snuffed all that out. He will be sorely missed by the members of his support group, his co-workers, family and friends.

Donations can be made to Project Open Hand, which brought Ronnie so many wonderful meals when he was unable to cook for himself. A memorial party (he wanted no "service") will be held in his honor on Sunday, August 20, 1995. For more information, call Michael Waggener at 415-8246729. ▼

Pryor Conrad

Sept. 1953 - July 30, 1995

Pryor Conrad died July 30, 1995 after a long struggle with AIDS. He was fortunate to have many friends who helped him in his struggle with the disease, and was especially fortunate for his partner of more than 12 years, Robb Crowder. Pryor is survived by his mother, Irene Conrad, and brother, James Conrad, both of Birmingham, Alabama.

Pryor was born September 20, 1953 in Birmingham, Alabama. He was active in civic affairs and ran unsuccessfully for the Jefferson County School Board at age 18. Upon arriving in San Francisco in 1981, Pryor served on the Stonewall Democratic Club Executive Board.

Pryor and Robb moved to San Leandro in 1989, at which time Pryor began working for the Lurie Company. In San Leandro, Pryor was a leader in the Farewell Pond Neighborhood Association, the Hayward Demos Democratic Club, the Eden Area United Democratic Headquarters and GLOBE.

Pryor's good-natured, Southern charm will be missed by all who had the pleasure of working with him. Services will be held at Christ Lutheran Church, 100 Hacienda Ave. in San Lorenzo on Saturday, August 19 at 11 a.m. Donations can be made to Project Inform, 1965 Market St., Suite 220, San Francisco, CA 94103. ▼

OBITUARIES

Pat Sanchez 1953 - 1995

Pat Sanchez, 42, died peacefully July 20/21 at his home near the banks of the Rio Grande in Belen, 30 miles south of Albuquerque. His life partner, Michael Coker, held him through his final moments. Pat's son, Steven, was at his side, as he had been for three weeks, helping to care for the father who had loved him so much.

I first met Pat when he attended a dinner party of the Motorcyclen of New Mexico in November 1984. He certainly was the best-looking man in the room, and that combined with his quick intelligence certainly charmed everybody in the club. We soon voted him into the MNMs and made him secretary. He was an officer every year: road captain four times, president three times, one of the best treasurers we ever had.

Pat constantly inspired local efforts to raise funds for New Mexico AIDS Services (NMAS). As a judge or visitor at leather contests from coast to coast, he didn't hesitate to combine his own celebrity with passionate, articulate passion on behalf of organizations fighting AIDS.

On the night of July 20/21, Pat said goodbye to his son, to the "family" he'd wanted at his side, and to his very special Michael; then he left us with his sense of wonder and expectation for what lies beyond this world. ▼

Thomas Kennedy Whitmer Jan. 2, 1949 - May 14, 1995

Tom was born in Pittsburgh, Penn. He graduated from the University of Arizona in Tucson, where he worked at Project Head Start until he moved to San Francisco in 1980. He retired as office manager of Takahashi Consulting Engineers in January 1994. Tom died peacefully at his home in San Francisco on Mother's Day. He was preceded in death by his partner, David Gaunt (Dec. 13, 1954 - April 15, 1994). Tom is survived by two brothers, Warren of Kennebunkport, Maine, and William of Reno, Nevada. Many thanks to Visiting Nurses & Hospice and to his physician, Dr. Owen. ▼

important icons of the corporate world: with an elegant correctness of style and an obsessive attention to detail. He had designed the look of the Concorde jet for British Airways and completed the livery for the rest of the airline while a project manager at Walter Landor Associates. He designed the AM/PM markets for Arco, the airline liveries for Alaska Airlines, Singapore Airlines, SAS and many others. He was Head of Design for Landor in London and spearheaded many corporate identity programs there.

John R. Engeberg Jr. Sept. 18, 1962 - July 21, 1995

John R. Engeberg Jr., beloved son of Beverly and John Engeberg Sr., passed away peacefully with his father and good friend, Cliff Morrison, by his side at the Ft. Miles Veterans Hospital in San Francisco from complications related to HIV disease. John was born in Takoma Park, Maryland; graduated from Bowie Senior High School in 1981; and attended P.G.C.C. before enlisting in the Navy. He moved to San Francisco in 1986. John is survived by his parents, Beverly and John Engeberg, and his brother, Leonard Engeberg.

A memorial service was held in Golden Gate Park at the AIDS Memorial Grove on July 25. A meditation was given by Fr. Edward Thylstrup; tributes to John by Jeffrey, Megan, Cliff, Donna Mae and friends/co-workers from FLAX; and the closing prayer by Pastor Dennis Anderson. A memorial service will be held in Bowie, Maryland, on August 13 at The Church of the Redeemer.

In the last few years of his life, John, a very creative artist, had focused on painting and developed a unique style with acrylics using an extrusion technique. His major subject was the highway and its relationship with the natural, rural landscape. ▼

Craig Siegel Nov. 5, 1948 - July 29, 1995

Craig Siegel designed the end of his life as he had designed so many of the important icons of the corporate world: with an elegant correctness of style and an obsessive attention to detail. He had designed the look of the Concorde jet for British Airways and completed the livery for the rest of the airline while a project manager at Walter Landor Associates. He designed the AM/PM markets for Arco, the airline liveries for Alaska Airlines, Singapore Airlines, SAS and many others. He was Head of Design for Landor in London and spearheaded many corporate identity programs there.

Craig designed the poster graphics for one of the first gay documentaries, *Word is Out*, and volunteered his services for many men's health projects. Craig was born in Oakland. He was educated at Pratt Institute and obtained a Masters at U.C. Berkeley. Although he traveled incessantly, he lived in San Francisco according to the Gospel of Mame and believed implicitly in the virtues of room service and frequent flyer miles. Craig made a new circle of friends with a support group known as the Circle of the Century. Craig also made a Circle of One with Dan Ho, whose Hawaiian charms hula'ed their way into Craig's heart. He died peacefully in the presence of his mother Clare, sister Virginia Darrow, and many friends; he leaves his brother Glenn and many beloved nieces and nephews. He was thankful for the care of everyone at the Conant Group and Zion Hospital. ▼

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Casaendra Nepenthe Young 1954-1995

Brilliant and creative, Casaendra was known for her wicked sense of humor and robust laugh. Casaendra was born in Kingston, Jamaica and was educated on both American coasts. She lived on Christopher Street in N.Y.C. and in Palm Springs, CA. Casaendra called the Bay Area home.

She was a longtime and proud member of Bill W's Group and other 12-step programs, including Alanon. She worked in office administration at U.C. San Francisco and led workshops on meditation and relaxation.

Casaendra leaves behind her family of friends, including Brian, Brenda and Patti. Her pampered and precious cat, "Princess Sweetie," will miss her sorely. Casaendra's laugh, zest for life, and sense of humor will long be remembered by those who knew her.

Casaendra lost her long battle with clinical depression on July 23. A memorial in her honor will be held on Wednesday, August 16 at 6 p.m. at MCC Church, 150 Eureka St. ▼

Obituary Policy

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

George Bigham June 15 - Aug. 3, 1995

The East Bay gay community lost a gentle friend when George Bigham's odyssey of discovery and sharing ended at Kaiser Hospital on August 3. It began in Detroit, encompassed marriage, fatherhood, the Vietnam War, Gay Liberation, and the Pacific Center for Human Growth in Berkeley. It was there that George spent 15 years as a volunteer facilitator for the Monday Night Gay Men's Rap Groups.

Thoughtful, provocative and avuncular, George's style belied an insatiable curiosity about life, love, and humankind. At the end of a group, it was a treat to have him put his large hand on your shoulder and ask how you liked the group. His insights and kindness will be kept alive by the many friends he leaves at the center.

In the last months of his illness, George often spoke of George "Hermes" Romo, with whom he'd shared nine years. We hope they are now reunited.

George is survived by his mother, two brothers, two sisters, his wife Diana, his son George IV, and his partner Elio. A memorial service is planned for 11 a.m. on August 19 at St. Joseph's Church in El Cerrito. ▼

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LGD1069 for Kaposi's Sarcoma

A new retinoid gel for topical application to KS lesions. Provides a non-cytotoxic option for people with skin KS. 8 week study with option to continue if the gel is safe and effective. Sponsored by Ligand Pharmaceuticals.

Delavirdine (U-90, BHAP)

Two studies available: first, for people with 200-500 CD4 and less than 6 months of AZT, a double-blind comparison of AZT plus DLV vs. AZT plus placebo; second, for people with fewer than 300 CD4 and less than 4 months of ddl, a double-blind comparison of ddl plus DLV vs. ddl plus placebo. Upjohn.

DaunoXome

This is a phase III study using DaunoXome for people with Kaposi's Sarcoma with pulmonary involvement. Other forms of treatment for KS must be discontinued at least two weeks prior to treatment. This study is sponsored by Vestar, Inc.

DaunoXome

This is a compassionate use protocol for people who have advanced KS. Patients receive infusions twice a month and may continue indefinitely. This study is sponsored by Vestar, Inc.

For further information, please call the Client Care Coordinator at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of the Clinical Research Department at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde St., SF 94109.

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SERVICIOS DISPONIBLES EN ESPAÑOL

The Hugh Grant thing: who really blew it?

by Michael C. Botkin

The recent Hugh Grant flap, and the public reaction to it, baffles me. For those of you who have been in a coma for the past month, or stopped watching the news because you couldn't take any more O.J. coverage, Grant, a handsome, clean-cut British actor, was arrested in L.A. for getting a blow job from a prostitute in his car. Since then Grant has made the rounds of talk shows giving shame-faced apologies and reaping a media bonanza for his just-released, mediocre movie. The sex-worker who serviced him has sold her story to a British tabloid for \$160,000. And swarms of paparazzi have descended on Grant's girlfriend who, however, refuses to comment.

Grant copped a plea, paid a fine

of about a thousand dollars, and hit the circuit of TV talk shows. His appearance on the *Tonight Show*, just after the bust, gave Jay Leno's show a lead in the ratings over Letterman for the first time in history.

Commentary

Grant's public apologies were so widely televised that even I saw one. I tend to avoid talk shows, but as I channel-surfed one night I paused to listen to the handsome moppet express contrition for his sin. "I did a bad, bad thing. It was wrong. It was stupid," he said. The audience ate it up.

I was perplexed. What was the terrible thing he'd done? Get a blow job? Get caught having semi-public sex? It's true that by

the time a star reaches the heights that Grant has scaled, they're supposed to hire escorts who come to their rooms, rather than hiring prostitutes on the street. Was this violation of class status the "bad thing" that he'd done?

If he'd answered instead, "I didn't do anything so terrible, it's your laws that are stupid and you all know it," I don't suppose he'd be lionized so. And then he would lose the opportunity to boost his movie, a lackluster film that needs all the help it can get. But I, for one, would stand up and cheer. His hang-dog confession and the titillated giggles of the audience gratified by watching him grovel for his naughtiness made me sick.

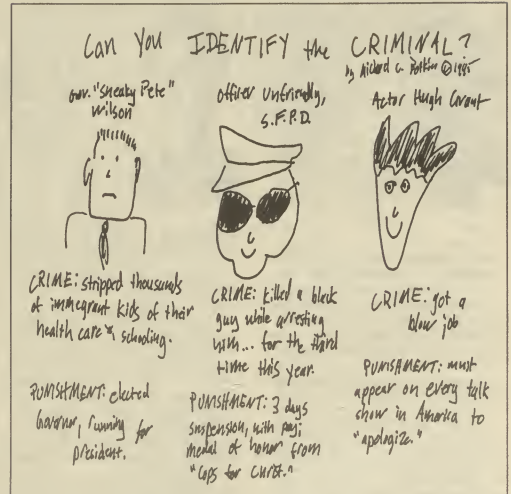
The \$160,000 dick

Most aspects of the story, as presented by the mainstream media, perplex me. What information did the sex-worker, who was paid \$160,000, give that was worth that kind of money? There were some tantalizing details about Grant's dick. "It was cute," she said. "I'd give it a six."

I took this to mean that she figured he was six inches long. My partner strenuously disagrees. "She didn't say 'six' she said 'a six,' like on a ten-point scale." He further points out that the term "cute" often implies "small" or diminutive, and certainly isn't attached to items that are also described as "large."

Given the vagueness of the information, was it really worth enough to support five middle class families for a year? Is this person's value really enhanced \$160,000 because she touched Grant's dick?

The answer to both questions



is, evidently, yes. It makes this person the best paid sex-worker in L.A. for that week, at least; maybe for the whole year. Heidi Fleiss and her upper-class hookers look cheap by comparison. Grant himself, she claims, paid her \$60 for the act. This strikes me as rather steep for a curbside blow job, which I understand you can get on Capp Street for \$10 (or less, in bad weather). And now she, like Grant, can work the TV circuit. You would think they'd done something special, instead of just have sex. There must have been thousands of blow jobs in L.A. alone that very day, possibly several hundred in parked cars. Somehow this one had elevated its participants to stardom.

So Grant gets, in addition to a blow job, a chance to promote his movie. The sex worker gets big bucks and fame. The only person to come out behind on this is Grant's girlfriend, who has to contend with a glare of harsh publicity. No matter what she does, she's damned by the public. If she forgives him, she's condoning slutdom. If she dumps him she's vindictive. Some snicker that she apparently wasn't able to satisfy him.

And imagine what it was like, returning from Italy or wherever, and being ambushed at the airport by hundreds of tabloid press hounds demanding to know what you thought about your boyfriend getting caught getting a blow job. Finally the whole affair seems to have slightly tarnished her reputation while the actual participants in the illegal event have, in contrast, reaped significant benefits from getting caught.

At least one creative individual has suggested that Grant staged the whole incident to cover closeted homosexuality. Willing as I am to entertain accusations of queerness in public figures, I don't find this a convincing possibility. Grant is one of about a half-dozen actors who hasn't been suspected of homosexuality. And how would you arrange to get caught? "Come 'n honey. No, not here! Let me drive up a ways and park under that street lamp, across from the police car. It'll be safer."

This scenario is a little far-fetched. But such speculation flourishes in the atmosphere of delightful scandal raised by the arrest.

Twisted logic

It is a significant sign of the low level of the debate that two key issues that the Grant arrest should have raised have remained completely absent from all mainstream media coverage of the incident: safe sex and the legal status of sex workers.

Given that this was the most heavily publicized sex act performed in the United States this year, I'm curious to know if it was safe sex or not. Did they use a condom? Did they discuss it at all? I don't think any medical authority would claim that the sex worker could have infected Grant with AIDS by sucking on his dick, but some would insist that Grant put the worker at risk; what about legal liability? Could the sex-worker insist on having Grant HIV tested?

If they did use a condom, then I would as soon have this fact publicized, to show the public how safe sex is becoming a norm. If they didn't, then there should be some discussion of how and why they did not, and the risks they incurred. Getting a blow job is no sin; exposing someone to AIDS is a crime. But the media didn't even touch the issue.

More frustrating is their refusal to examine the question of whether, in fact, Grant had done anything wrong at all in the first place. Who is harmed by consensual prostitution? Grant wasn't harmed, except by the fine which was caused by the law against his blow job, not the blow job itself. The sex worker got sixty bucks, plus \$160,000, plus international fame. Who was hurt by this crime?

And was this law worth enforcing? It probably cost the City of L.A. a couple of thousand dollars in police and court time to arrest and book Grant. Was it really worth it to the city to spend all this money to keep Grant from getting a blow job? Doesn't the whole incident pretty much demand that the twisted logic criminalizing prostitution be re-examined?

Apparently not. And part of the unspoken deal allowing him all this positive publicity is that Grant wouldn't raise it. Thus his "I was a bad boy who did a stupid thing" schtick.

All this confirms what we already knew: that America is seriously screwed up when it comes to anything having to do with sex. But this combination of moralistic mock-outrage with giggling titillation is particularly irritating. If people really think that prostitution and blow jobs are evil, they shouldn't reward Grant for engaging in them. If they don't, then these acts shouldn't be crimes. Oh well, what can you expect from a government that with one hand funds ads to discourage smoking, and with the other disburses money to the producers of tobacco?

The Grant incident reaffirms the well-known equation: sex + the media = distortion and hypocrisy. ▼

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HEALTH AND COMMUNITY

ACT UP Golden Gate: meets Tues. nights, 7pm at Mobilization Against AIDS, 592 Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

ACT UP SF: committed to ending the AIDS crisis thru direct action. 1388 Haight St., #218 9417. Info: 522-2907.

AIDS Benefits Counselors: Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Community Research Consortium: conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia Unit at St. Mary's Med. Center seeks volunteers. Call Ed Schultz, 750-4976.

AIDS Health Project: Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed: training begins soon. 984-1902.

Alternative Family Project offers low-fee family counseling, support groups, community forums for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members. 566-5683.

ANGLES, Andersen Gay and Lesbian Employees. Call Terry Rouman at Andersen Octel node 495, ext. 8058.

BAHAN (Bay Area HIV Advocacy Network) is a grassroots program of the SF AIDS Foundation: phone/fax free action alerts, gov't lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. Info: Ryan Clary 864-5855 ext. 3032.

Baker Places provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bay Positives: Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Bereavement Groups for family, friends

and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Boy + Boy: actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 575-1545 xBOY.

Break Out!, a networking group for gay/lesbian trainers and human resource professionals. Call Greg 431-5651 or Grace (510) 465-0341.

Brothers Network Support Groups: HIV and Recovery, Mondays, 6:30pm, 973 Market, Suite 650. Call for schedule of other groups: 356-8140.

Clinica Esperanza, the HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Clinical Research Unit at UCSF seeks participants in a study involving AZT. Subjects must be HIV+, 18 yrs.+, CD4 count between 300-500. Pays \$80. Call 476-5914.

Continuum HIV Day Services: an adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Call 241-5500.

Comprehensive Outreach Project for Asian Substance Abusers: reduced risk of HIV infection thru counseling and treatment referrals. Multilingual. 541-9404.

Directory of HIV Clinical Trials in the Bay Area: free Summer '95 edition. Call 476-9554.

Extra Positives: Social support group for HIV+ men under 40. Info: 522-9477.

Gay Fathers Support Network of Santa Rosa meets first Sun. of every month, 7pm. Info: Mark (707) 523-6941.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic: Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7 pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun. 5-7 pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Gay Young Spirit, a new gay young

men's social group (18-35) with a focus on spirituality, meets every other Thurs., 7:30pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

Golden Gate Flyers: gay, lesbian and bisexual pilots. 995-4938.

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox, Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. Hector, 565-1909.

Healing Alternatives Foundation maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

Healing Circle: Begun as an HIV support group, now a space of healing & growth for all men & women. Meets every Thurs. at The San Francisco Center for Living, 4054 18th St. 7-9 pm. 252-1666.

Health Support Services for PWAs and their caregivers, Wednesdays 6-9pm, Marin Treatment Center, 1466 Lincoln Ave., San Rafael. Registration: 457-3755.

Hepatitis "B" Testing and vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men, free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, Sun. 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

HIV/AIDS Services at Operation Concern: Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV+ men, men with AIDS/ARC, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St.

HIV and African-American Gay/Bisexual Men support groups every Wed., 6:30-8pm. Brothers Network, 973 Market, Suite 650. 356-8140.

HIV Positive Youth Group, 18-25, meets every Wed. 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co.: 368-9989.

Immune Enhancement Project treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine

and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Introduction to HIV Treatment Options: Project Inform Introductory Town Mtg. free. Thurs., Aug. 17, 2-4pm. HIV Complementary Therapy Center, Church of the Incarnation, 550 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa. 558-8669.

Iris Center: Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program (LYFE): Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian/ gay/ bisexual/ transgender youth. 565-7681.

Legal Services for Children's H.O.P.E. Project provides social and legal services to low-income HIV affected families. Info: 863-3762.

Linea de Ambiente: Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM), 243-9534.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center: Primary health care for women by women. Counseling, anonymous testing, prevention education, support groups for HIV+ women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC Youth Talkline seeks volunteers, especially people of color, transgenders and people under 18. Call Anne or Olga, 703-6150.

Malaysian Gay and Lesbian Group: a social support group. Thomas, 789-8042.

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group offers ongoing support groups for the HIV community, partners, friends and family. No fees. Fast track volunteer training begins Aug. 26. 863-1581.

Mothers Organizing Mothers working to change public attitudes and policies on AIDS. Meets 2nd Wed. of every month, 7pm. Call 422-9639 or 221-6651 for information.

NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt seeks volunteers for archiving, data entry, community outreach, sewing, more. Call Mike Moreno at 882-5500.

Out On The Island, Alameda's Gay and

Lesbian community activist group. mtg. Mon., Aug. 14, 7:30pm. (510) 521-6944.

Pacific Center: Gay and bisexual men's HIV/AIDS support group, Weds., 7pm. 1250 Pine St. #301, Walnut Creek. (510) 939-7711.

Project HOPE offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Open Hand provides free home-delivered hot meals and free groceries to anyone with symptomatic HIV in San Francisco and Alameda Counties. Various ethnic and restricted diets available, plus free nutritional counseling. No waiting list. Call 1-800-551-MEAL.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida provides peer counseling, legal assistance, workshops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

Psychotherapy group for gay men explores issues of intimacy, low fee 12-week process groups. Call for info/intake: Operation Concern, 626-7000, ext. 126.

Q Action: Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 621-7177.

We Care Bay Area provides emergency financial support to individuals affected by AIDS and other serious illnesses. Requests must be made thru a Bay Area outreach or social service agency. Info: 282-1911.

Women's Action Coalition is an open alliance of women committed to direct action on issues affecting the rights of all women. WAC meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 pm (women only), 1360 Mission St., Suite 200. WAC Hotline: 255-6352.

Women's Cancer Resource Center: support, resource & advocacy group for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & doctors. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in support groups, newsletter, educational programs, legal workshop & more. (510) 548-9272 or 548-WCRC. 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

Send Health and Community Listings to: Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 197232

The following person(s) are doing business as R & E ENTERPRISES, 1114 Sutter Street, Suite 603, San Francisco, CA 94109: ROBERT HAROUTUNIAN, 1114 Sutter Street, Suite 603, San Francisco, CA 94109 and EDWARD LEHMANN, 1112 Larkin Street Suite 501, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 19, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed ROBERT HAROUTUNIAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 19, 1995.

July 27, 1995, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 971046

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of PAUL JIM SHEDD for change of name. The application of PAUL JIM SHEDD for change of name having been filed in Court, an it appearing from said application PAUL JIM SHEDD has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to PAUL JIM. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 5th day of September, 1995, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 14 day of July, 1995.

July 20, 27, 1995, August 3, 10, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196525

The following person(s) are doing business as LAMP LAVENDER HILL, 3760 20th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: MICHAEL MAGNAYE, 3760 20th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 29, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed MICHAEL MAGNAYE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1995.

July 27, 1995, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196998

The following person(s) are doing business as NAKED STUDIO ART GALLERY, 355 Bryant Street, Loft 110, San Francisco, CA 94107: RICHARD HEROLD, 355 Bryant Street, Loft 110, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed RICHARD HEROLD. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 10, 1995.

July 20, 27, 1995, Aug. 3, 10, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 197098

The following person(s) are doing business as OCEAN CAFE RESTAURANT, 1031 Ocean Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112-1840: LINDA SEAN, 1033 Ocean Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 13, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed LINDA SEAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 19, 1995.

July 20, 27, 1995, Aug. 3, 10, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196538

The following person(s) are doing business as SHAMELESS PRODUCTION, 3362 A 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: JAMES LYVOID SMITH, 3362 A 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan. 01, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JAMES L. SMITH. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 19, 1995.

July 20, 27, 1995, Aug. 3, 10, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 197059

The following person(s) are doing business as PASTIS INC., 1015 Battery Street, San Francisco, CA 94111: PASTIS INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 1015 Battery Street, San Francisco, CA 94111. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October 1, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed JEAN B. LORDA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 12, 1995.

July 20, 27, 1995, Aug. 3, 10, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 970254

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of CHERDPOOM MARKPOL for change of name. The application of CHERDPOOM MARKPOL for change of name having been filed in Court, an it appearing from said application CHERDPOOM MARKPOL has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to E. Z. VOOTH P. MARKPOL. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 7th day of September, 1995, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 27 day of July, 1995.

August 3, 10, 17, 24, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 197436

The following person(s) are doing business as MECCA, 2027 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94114: IMAGENE, L.L.P., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 2027 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed GENE TARTAGLIA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 26, 1995.

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 197526

The following person(s) are doing business as THRIFT LODGE, 2011 Bayshore Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94134: ARNE PROPERTIES INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 2011 Bayshore Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 31, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed ARTHUR C. POLIZZI. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 31, 1995.

Aug. 10, 17, 24, 31, 1995.

RFP #DSS-107

City and County of San Francisco Department of Social Services Request for Proposals

Request to provide five Family Preservation and Support Services: creation of a planning for Resource Center in the Western Addition, planning for Family Resource Center in the Mission District, provide in-home support services to families with children at risk of abuse and neglect, a crisis family hotline for the Asian and Pacific Islands communities and parenting classes for the Asian and Pacific Islands communities.

Contacts: Ana Cortez, DSS Office of Contract Compliance (415) 557-5680 Fax (415) 431-9270

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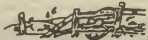
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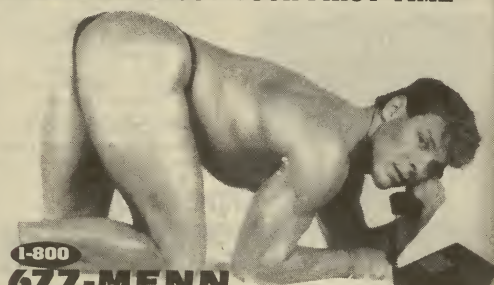
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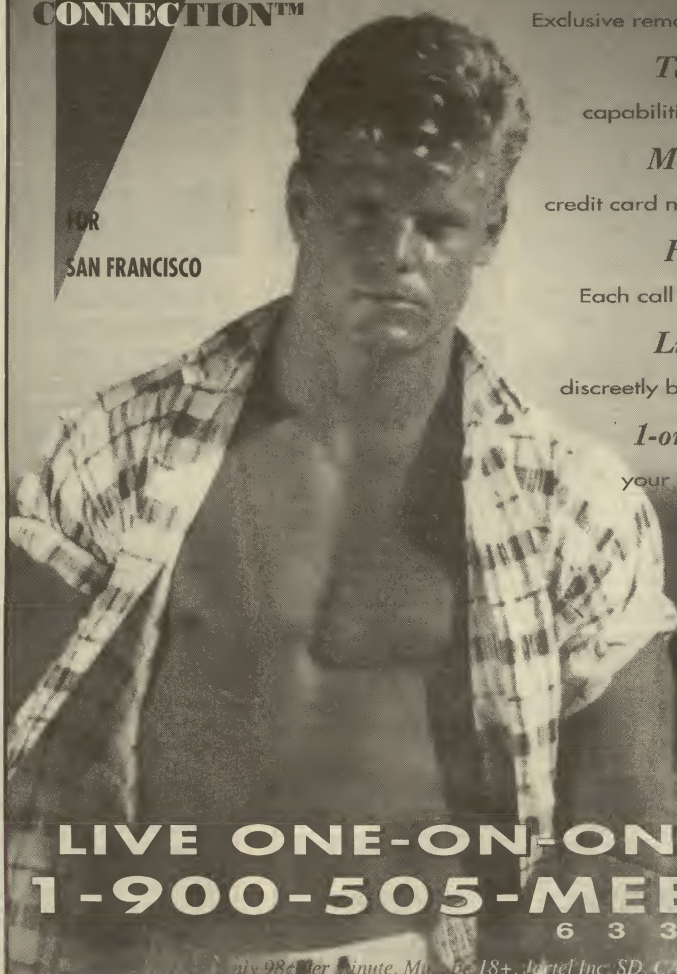
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'World and Time Enough'

by Maria De La O

Eric Mueller's *World and Time Enough* does not age well. It won the Audience Award for Best Feature when it premiered at the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival in 1994, but in 1995 its characters are looking fatigued and its wrinkles are deepening.

The story takes place in Minneapolis and centers on Mark, played unconvincingly by Matt Guidry, and his boyfriend Joey, played better by Gregory G. Giles. Content in their relationship with each other, both men are involved in their own searches for identity, searches that aren't particularly compelling. For Mark, identity comes through his art: he is well-aware of his mortality and wants to make a difference in the world before he is gone. The stakes are raised when his father, his only living relative, dies unexpectedly. Mark withdraws from Joey and the world and becomes obsessed with building a cathedral as a monument to his father and to himself, something immense and beautiful that will last for centuries.

Mark is a twentysomething, overeducated, HIV-positive sculptor who builds huge, AIDS-activist, quasi-legal installations on other people's land. To pay his rent and bail, he dons a button-down shirt and works as a temp who engages in corporate sabotage by erasing computer hard drives whenever he gets the chance; with his conservative looks he's the perfect saboteur. The problem is, while Mark could have been a compelling character a few years ago, in 1995, after at least ten years of public and activist AIDS

Gregory G. Giles as Joey and Matt Guidry as Mark in *World and Time Enough*.

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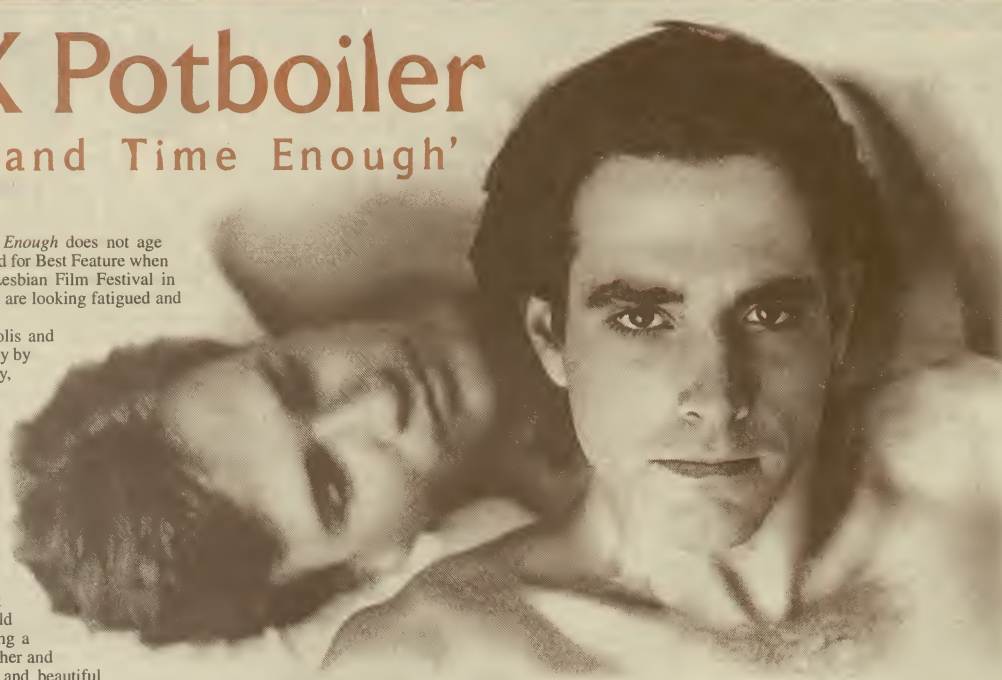
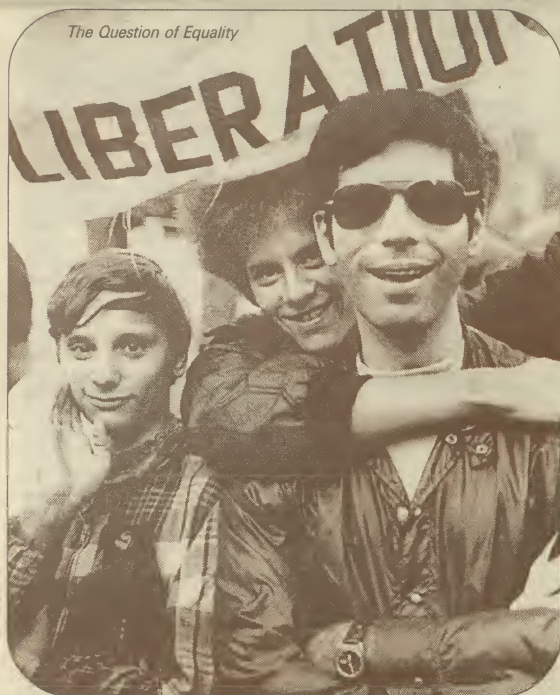


Photo: Donna Kelly



The Question of Equality

Outspoken Messages

KQED's Unsettling 'The Question of Equality'

by Paul Bollwinkler

Watching a four-hour television series on the gay and lesbian struggle for civil rights in America is a bit like riding a roller coaster without leaving your living room. For every upbeat, inspiring moment of courage or justified outrage, there are two or three rude awakenings that hurl you right back to earth. By the time it's over, *The Question of Equality*, the groundbreaking new PBS series airing on KQED August 14 and 15 (and nationwide in October), will leave you thinking that the gay movement's biggest achievement is that it exists at all.

Funded in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and Britain's Channel 4, *The Question of Equality* is the first program of its kind to appear on U.S. television. British filmmaker Isaac Julien produced the series, whose four segments were written and directed by an esteemed assembly of gay and lesbian visual artists: Arthur Dong (*Coming Out Under Fire*); Tina DiFelicianantonio (*Living With AIDS*) and Jane C. Wagner; Robyn Hutt (*Voices From the Front*); and Robert Byrd (*Get Over It*).

The mix of approaches — Dong's hour is straightforward documentary, Byrd incorporates poetry, performance and MTV-inspired camera work, the women split their hours into *60 Minutes*-like news segments — creates a visually interesting potpourri that will serve as a

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MUSIC

Jill "I Kissed A Girl" Sobule comes to SF

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Alan Frutkin flies with television's *The Crew*

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Roberto Friedman on Edmund White's *Skinned Alive*

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OUT THERE

by Justin Zane

Don't mess with Madonna: That's what director Allison Anders (*Mi Vida Loca*) recently discovered on the set of Miramax's *Four Rooms*, set for a fall release. Anders, one of four directors working on the four-part anthology film, apparently cut a scene from her segment in which Madonna kisses a teenage girl, played by Alicia Witt of TV's *Cybill*. When Madonna protested, Anders stood firm, forcing Madonna to go over her director's head to Miramax co-chairmen Harvey and Bob

Weinstein, who, according to entertainment magazine *Mr. Showbiz*, restored the scene. (Undoubtedly, Miramax boys Harvey and Bob are feeling their oats these days, and well they should, for Miramax is a subdivision of Walt Disney Corp., which merged last week with ABC/Capital Cities to form a \$19 billion entertainment conglomerate. Memo to Allison: Live a little.)

What's In a Name?: Merriam-Webster's defines the word icon as a "religious image painted on a small wood panel." San Francisco's *Dykespeak* is normally printed on paper, and its subject matter, though occasionally pious, is hardly religious in any conventional sense of the word. Which makes *Dykespeak*'s name change to the mysterious *Icon* truly strange. When we first caught wind of the frothy new appellation, some of us joked that maybe this was a higher-ups idea of infusing the paper with a bit of "LA glamour" a la Jean-Paul Gaultier and Norma Desmond. You can only imagine our surprise then when we learned that *Dykespeak-Icon*'s publishers have decided to open an LA office. We wish them the best of luck, but in terms of appealing to an audience by title, wasn't *Dykespeak* sufficiently to the point? *Icon* is more likely to be picked up by magicians and Shih Tzu breeders than dykes and lipstick lezzies. In view of this thoroughgoing SoCalization of *Dykespeak*, we suggest a new title, one less queer invisible but glamorous nonetheless: *Dykecon*.

Brandon Judell at the Movies: He's a two-time Tony winner, starred in *Angels in America* on Broadway, the original off-Broadway production of *Love/Valour/Compassion!*, and



Madonna

Photo: Patrick Demarchelier

HBO's *And the Band Played On*. We could only be talking about homo actor Stephen Spinella, who appears to have turned in that prideful Queer Card at La La Land's front door to make *Virtuosity*, his first big Hollywood flick. And what a stinker it is. In the film, Spinella plays Daryl Lindenmeyer, an effeminate software designer who hates women and children, and whose mania for cybertechnology gives birth to Sid 6.7, a digital criminal whose personality is a composite of 200 serial killers. After falling in love with his creation, Spinella's Lindenmeyer then sets the murderous cyborg loose upon the world to wreak havoc. Sound like Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*? Yes, only the overtly homoerotic scenes in which Lindenmeyer flirts with Sid 6.7 (played by *The Sum of Us*' Russell Crowe) are pure '90s Hollywood, a place where homosexuality is expressed insidiously through all manner of convoluted retrograde inversions but never in a straightforward, positive, manner. The film's correlations between homosexual infatuation and mass murder are business as usual for H-wood and repulsive.



Clive Barker

Queer horrrormeister Clive Barker was set to release his flick *Lord of Illusions* last winter, but the opening was postponed because of disagreements at the top about how the film looked. The filmmakers apparently weren't satisfied with the special effects, so they ordered a \$10 million face lift. For that price tag this story of a New York detective (Scott Bakula) on the trail of a petty fraudster, is poised to become one of the summer's splashiest spectacles. Barker will be in San Francisco next week (Thursday, August 10, 7 p.m.) for a reading and book signing at A Different Light Bookstore. *Lord of Illusions* opens August 25 at a theatre near you.

There's no dearth of Queens out there. Let's see, a quick list of significant ones brings to mind Ellery Queen, Steve McQueen, Butterfly

McQueen, SF letter writer James Queen, Queen Mab, Garbo's Queen Christina, the musical group Queen, the Queen Mother, and the biggest Queen of them all, Elizabeth, of England. We go into this at some length because we recently ran a photo of Julie Queen and identified it as Carol Queen, local sexologist, scribe and worldly wit. We thought the "Queen" scribbled on the back of the photo was sufficient ID at the time. We're happy to report that we're not the only blithering idiots in town who make this sort of mistake. Editors at the zine *Queer Underground* goofed similarly last week when they identified a picture of Lady Thorn, a local dominatrice, as Carol Queen. Ms. Q is a kind soul for suffering so many fools with such grace and good humor. As for Julie Queen, will someone please let us know who she is and why we have her picture in our files?

Speaking of queens, actor Patrick Stewart plays a grand one in *Jeffrey*. In real life, however, the actor insists he's not one of the girls. "I'm involved with a perfectly marvelous woman in Southern California," he recently the *Los Angeles Times*. Naturally, a coterie of cackling SF queens doesn't believe a word of it. "She's a queen and she's got the dick of death," one local luminary (closely affiliated with ink-stained wretchdom) shrieked on Castro Street last week. Whatever Stewart's sexual MO is, we don't care. We like him, even if he is pretending, and hope that he continues to play stylish, chatty faggots forever.

Part of Stewart's appeal is his positive, forward-thinking personality, which was much in evidence at a recent New York press conference for *Jeffrey*, where Stewart told beleaguered (and probably besotted) B.A.R. reporter Brandon Judell that writers for *Star Trek: The Next Generation* had actually toyed with gender-bending in some of the show's scripts. "We had one episode," Stewart said, "that dealt with a curious androgynous race of people whose sex was not clearly defined. But producers walked gingerly around the subject, not wanting to make a commitment one way or another on the genders of the race or the show." He went on to say that he thinks "there might be a totally acceptable gay community within the world of *Star Trek*."

Unfortunately, queendom has its less respectable elements, like glamour-hogging quidnunc Mr. Blackwell, who's in town this week doing a seminar in self-inflation - what he does best - at The Learning Annex. Just who is this Mr. B? Well, we thought he was a model of style, elegance and grace until last week's revealing *Examiner* interview with Mandy Mince-No-Words Behbehani, in which Mr. Borewell proved that he knows nothing of the things about which he professes to be an authority. What person claiming to understand the intricate intersections of fashion, illusion and character would say something so crass and flagrantly self-congratulatory as, "I've become something of a legend, and by whatever tool I used, I did build a place in life

Continued on page 33

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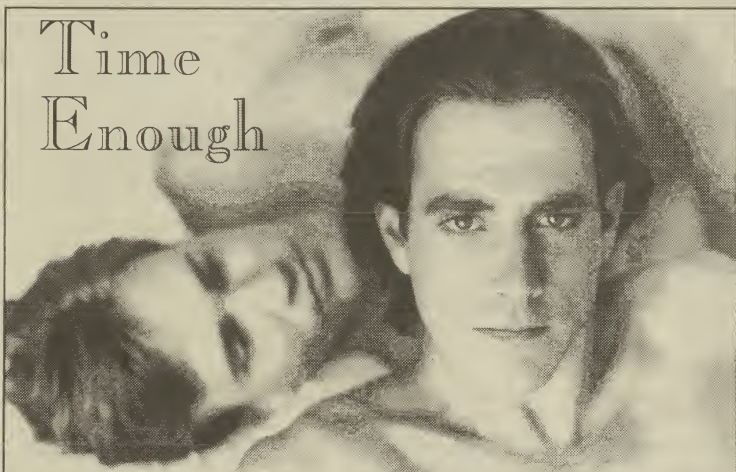
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Question

Continued from cover

refresher course for anyone who's attended gay film festivals over the last 20 years, and a startling primer for those not yet exposed to the progress and frustrations experienced by gay Americans. All four hours are surprisingly frank both in language and imagery, which is likely to engender among sponsors the kind of censorship woes that plagued PBS' national broadcast of *Tales of the City*.

The series begins on a positive note with Arthur Dong's *Out Rage '69*, a clear-headed account of the time before, during and after the Stonewall riots. Incorporating interviews with Stonewall participants and rarely seen archival footage, the

segment paints a vivid picture of a country emerging from a decade of political and social activism by detailing the split between the Gay Liberation Front, whose members voted to align themselves with the Black Panthers, and the Gay Activist Alliance, which was founded by disgruntled GLF members who felt the Panthers were homophobic and that gays should focus on their own issues. *Out Rage '69* ends with a too-brief look at Anita Bryant's successful 1977 campaign to overturn Dade County, Florida's gay rights ordinance. Many activists recall that fight as a necessary shot in the arm for burgeoning gay rights activism all over the country.

The bitter truth

The second two hours are far

more disturbing. *Culture Wars*, by DeFeliciano and Wagner, explores the sad and exasperating legal fight following the brutal murder of Julio Rivera, a gay man from Queens. After the police dismiss the case as drug-related, gay activists successfully shame the city into reopening the case. Their efforts result in the conviction of several teenage thugs — a bittersweet victory at best.

you feeling naive for ever thinking the world could be changed through education.

Robyn Hutt's *Hollow Liberty* dissects the ordeal of a group of women — lesbian and straight — who were expelled from the Navy after a wave of anti-gay paranoia swept the U.S.S. Norton Sound in the early '70s, shortly after women were first allowed to serve on military ships. It continues with the

where teens spearheaded a successful drive to pass legislation outlawing discrimination against lesbian and gay students. The series' unspoken final message is that the future — these kids — holds promise for more advances in gay rights activism and that the past was all back-breaking groundwork.


The Question of Equality seems destined to generate controversy and strong (for PBS)

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Next, *Culture Wars* looks at the national trashing Marlon Riggs endured when Jesse Helms took on *Tongues Untied* as part of his reactionary political agenda. The hour closes with a piece on Oregon's Ballot Measure 9, the infamous attempt by conservatives to overturn hard-won local gay rights ordinances in Oregon. The most frightening moment of the series occurs in this segment when the filmmakers interview "Yes on 9" fanatics. Their ignorant, vitriolic rhetoric may leave

Neanderthal Supreme Court decision to uphold Georgian Michael Hardwick's sodomy conviction and concludes with Clinton's bungled attempt to change the military's anti-gay policy.

The producers wisely conclude the series with Robert Byrd's *Generation Q*, a relatively hopeful look at gay and lesbian teenagers in three unique settings: an all-gay alternative high school in LA, an Albuquerque support center, and a Massachusetts town

Nielsen numbers. And while it's easy to imagine the broadcast itself being mentioned in future history projects, gay and lesbian viewers who take in all four hours may want to set up protective shields in front of the TV. There are moments when you'll want to throw something. ▼

Parts 1 and 2 of KOED's *The Question of Equality* air Monday, August 14 (8 p.m.); parts 3 and 4 air Tuesday, August 15 (8 p.m.)

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'Freestyles' Redux



Photo: Craig Blankenhorn

Freestyles With Amanda Bearse, the first commercially-produced, nationally-aired television show in the U.S. for gays and lesbians, will rebroadcast July's successful premiere episode August 12 and 26 at 12:30 a.m. PST on VH-1. The 60-minute show delivers in-depth reports on everything from sports, health and fitness guidelines to the latest in entertainment, cooking, and innovative trends coming out of America's most exciting gay and lesbian communities. *Freestyles* lined up an impressive array of corporate sponsors for its first show, including A Different Light Bookstore, Pierre Cardin Watches, the National Gay Newspaper Guild, Hiram Walker and others. Their interest should be ours. Broadcast time may not be ideal, but the show is worth staying up for. ▼

Gay TV at a Glance

The Crew Tests Its Wings

by Alan Frutkin

When Fox TV announced its fall lineup last spring, among the entries was a comedy about a group of "young and sexy flight attendants who deal with whiny passengers." It didn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that somewhere in the formula for *Cabin Pressure* there'd be a gay steward. After all, how many straight male flight attendants do you know?

Well, lo and behold, my first call to the network about *CP* confirmed my hunch. Premiering August 31, Fox has now renamed the show *The Crew* and has realigned its format. What began as a sitcom concentrating only on the two female flight attendants now focuses on the entire ensemble.

That's good news for the gay steward Paul Steadman, played by David Burke, who makes it quite clear in his press bio that he's married with two children. Though straight-acting in style, Steadman's character is at least open enough to relate that his homosexuality can be traced back to a love of his sister's Susie Homemaker Easy-Bake oven. OK. Fine. He's got my attention—I can relate.

But Burke loses me when he delivers the customary "It was fabulous" line like he's Joe



David Burke

Photo: Debra Finegold/Fox

Maggie: Paul, try to act a little more masculine.

Paul: What? I resent that. You're only saying that because I'm gay.

Maggie: No, I'm saying it because you're Jewish. Now butch it up.

Or this one, in which the flight attendant's evil boss absorbs a jibe from Steadman with the following retort—a la Sue Ann Nivens:

"Dear Paul, dear sweet, heterosexually-challenged Paul. I'd tell you not to judge me until you've walked a mile in my shoes, but I'm sure you have."

Who knows if *The Crew* will make it past mid-season. From what I can tell, it's pretty much your basic cookie-cutter sitcom loaded with stock characters: Maggie, the WASP-ish, uptight white star (Kristin Bauer); Jess,

Maggie's let-it-all-hang-out black best friend (Rose Jackson); Randy, the dumb male stud (Charles Esten); and Paul.

At any rate, Steadman may not break new ground for lesbian and gay characters on TV (I'm waiting for Tim Allen's *Tool Time* pal Richard Karn to come out as a big ole leather queen), but as long as gay characters are beginning to be thought of as "stock," well, that's a kind of progress. ▼

Out There

Continued from page 30

and whatever it is it's better than being unknown." What a pathetic advertisement for celebrity. Mr. Blandwell is a curious blend of the hieratic and the demotic, the highly symbolic and the everyday. Though occasionally these elements commingle successfully (as in high satire), in Mr. B their convergence gives rise to an unpleasant subspecies of kitsch.

A queen of a different sort is that roving literary wonderkind Danny Mangin, who writes for such a vast array of publications on such a diversity of topics our heads spin just trying to keep up. When he's not spewing gossip for *wilde maga-*

zine, or writing movie reviews for *S.F. Weekly*, he's editing a California travel guide and sharing with *B.A.R.* readers the wit and wisdom of Etta James, Janet Leigh and other glamorous stars of past and present renown. HRH is in New York at the moment, scoping out celebrities at swank parties and collecting smut for a future gossip column. (A midnight phone call last week from Hedda M. related the earthshattering news that he's learned the real reason Faye Dunaway was fired from *Sunset Boulevard*. More on this later.)

Mangin returns to SF in time to begin teaching his next lesbian and gay film class at City College, Film 120D "Contemporary Lesbian and Gay Film," which runs

Wednesday or Thursday nights, 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Everett Middle School, Room 225. The class begins Aug. 23 and 24 with screenings of Nick Broomfield's *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*, an acerbic documentary about the media circus that followed the capture of the woman dubbed "the nation's first lesbian serial killer." Other course highlights: Alison MacLean's sexual psychodrama *Crush*; the award-winning *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*; the rarely seen *In the Glitter Palace*, starring Barbara Hershey as a lesbian accused of murder; *The Last Supper*, winner of the "Teddy" award at the '95 Berlin Film Festival; and much more. The three-unit class is \$49 for the semester. For registration info., call 668-0767. ▼

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World

Continued from cover

art, the image of the ACT-UP artist has become a stereotype in queer literature and film. On an even larger scale, pop culture has latched on to the idea of a jaded, underemployed "Generation X" with a vengeance. Mark wouldn't be bad as a supporting player in a movie, but he induces a big yawn as its central focus.

Joey, who was adopted as a child, is searching for his identity by searching for family. He is a dutiful uncle to his sister's young daughter and dreams of a white-picket future with Mark. But these things aren't enough. He embarks on an ill-fated quest for his birth family after his adoptive father rejects him for

being gay (it's the typical raging father-weak mother routine). Beware: When Joey tells his sympathetic sister Marie (Bernadette Sullivan) about his search for something he can only describe as "someone to show me that I am real," she gives him a hackneyed lecture on the meaning of "chosen family."

Less Mark, more Joey

But Joey, a hunky city sanitation worker, is still a more interesting character than Mark. He picks up road trash with Zen-like peace, saving whatever discarded items catch his fancy. Though he doesn't call himself an artist, he carts his found items home and carefully arranges them into a kind of intimate art, creations meant solely for his own enjoyment. Though Joey enjoys simple

pleasures, he seems to have a brain — this isn't Forrest Gump. Writer/director Mueller would have done well to develop Joey more, a true original, while focusing less on Mark.

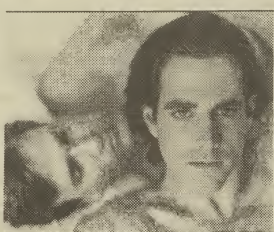
Joey and Mark's ever-single friend David, played with one sickly grinning expression after another by Kraig Swartz, drops

why the characters do what they do.

Not that the movie is all bad, just all of the character development and much of the acting. To be fair, *World and Time Enough* is Mueller's first feature film, created entirely with grants and fellowships, including money from the National Endowment

low-budget look or sound. He uses the camera to good effect; the camera angles and cutting are creative without calling attention to themselves. Mueller also has a good eye for cheesy Midwest locations and satirically funny representations of straight people — the fight scene in the overmanicured,

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Gregory G. Giles and Matt Guidry in *World and Time Enough*.

Photo: Donna Kelly

in on the couple from time to time, but more often appears alone, out of the storyline altogether, functioning as a narrator who explains both men's motivations directly to the audience. The fact is, if this uninvolved script were better written, David wouldn't have to explain

for the Arts. Considering how long it takes to get grant money, Mark's character might have been fresher when Mueller first envisioned it. Despite the lackluster writing, Mueller is quite competent as a director. Though he didn't have much money to shoot the film, it doesn't have a

tract-home community is hilariously reminiscent of John Waters. ▼

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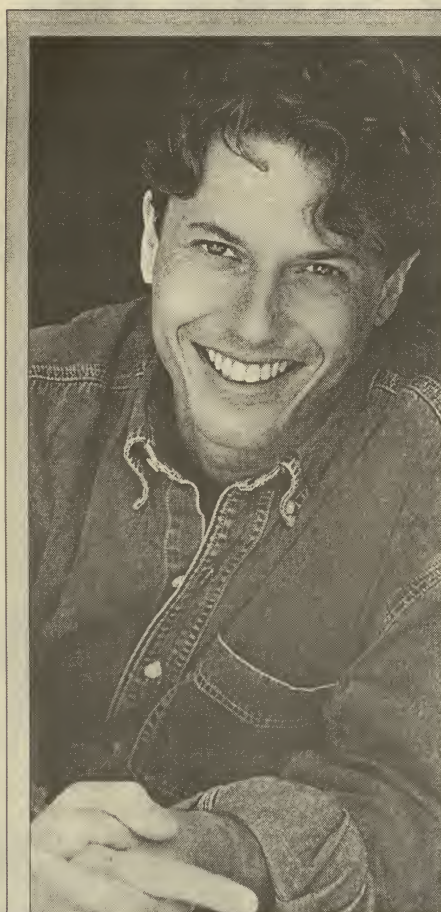
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Victor/Victoria

Julie Andrews is Still *Victoria's* Secret

by Will Shank

Victor/Victoria was waiting for me on the stage of the historic Orpheum Theatre in Minneapolis, unexpectedly, on my first visit to the Twin Cities. So I bought a ticket, escaping the buzz of my convention in St. Paul, and took a taxi to Minneapolis. I had read nothing about the show except for an interview with Julie Andrews in a Twin Cities magazine.

First, let me say that *Victor/Victoria* is one of my all-time favorite films. As one of the first mainstream films to deal in a joyous manner with issues of homosexuality, it represented a breakthrough in 1982, when it was first released. The following year, much on the strength of her performance in *V/V*, Julie Andrews was paraded through Harvard Square in a drag-filled convertible as the triumphant recipient of the Hasty Pudding Award. I was a graduate student at Harvard that year, and I cheered her on as she waved to the crowd.

So, needless to say, I entered the theatre with high expectations.

Victor/Victoria, the stage incarnation, begins hopefully, with a scene verbatim from the movie in which Toddy (Tony Roberts) watches his dubious boyfriend get out of his bed and empty his pockets. Ah! I thought, the stage play is the movie! Alas, it was not to be.

Overlooking for the time being what a pale incarnation of the flamboyant queen Tony Roberts is, compared to the extraordinarily daring performance of the late Robert Preston, I was willing to give him the benefit of the doubt. Although his delivery was monotonous, his singing voice was acceptable.

Trouble develops, however, just after the scene in which Ms. Andrews first appears as the starving, out-of-work Victoria Grant, and auditions for a disinterested club owner, Monsieur Labisse (Adam Heller). As devotees of the film will recall, Victoria exits the scene of her disastrous audition to enter into two cathartic and hilarious episodes involving a cockroach. One has her evicted from her room by a heartless concierge, and the following scene, memorable in the oeuvre of director Blake Edwards, has her escape without paying from a Paris restaurant by planting said bug in a salad. Both of these scenes have been inexplicably removed from the stage version. Instead—and this is where the real trouble begins—Ms. Andrews' Victoria sits in a rain-soaked doorway and sings a self-pitying song, "I've No Idea Where I'm Going."

The song is unsingable, as is much of the music added to the original score. I was immediately reminded of the musical version of *Goodbye, Mr. Chips*, with lyrics also by Mr. Bricusse. One critic noted at the time that poor Petula Clark was required to sing "songs that sounded like the Magna Carta set to music."

Woman of a certain age

The good news is that Julie Andrews is Julie Andrews. On stage, presumably night after night, she is her old indefatigable self, singing and hoofing up a storm. If she does not hold the high note of "Le Jazz Hot" as long as she did in the movie, she is still in fine voice, and her larger-than-life presence fills the theater when she has the opportunity to belt 'em out.

The drag aspect of her character is also, fortuitously, helped by the physical distance that necessarily separates the actors from the theater, rather than the movie, audience. Now a woman of a certain age, Ms. Andrews is far more convincing in her tuxedo as the youngish Count Grezinsky when viewed from the third row of a balcony than

she was larger than life onscreen 13 years ago.

Ironically, the best aspect of Blake Edwards' movies, his slapstick humor, falls flat, so to speak, on the stage. An unscripted female character reappears several times, more irritatingly each time, in order to take a pratfall from which she emerges intact, like Wiley Coyote, to give a thumbs-up to the audience. It is a sorry, amateurish shtick. Only during a bedroom farce scene, where characters move stealthily from one hotel suite to another, accompanied by *Pink Panther*-like background music, does the play begin to emulate the magic of Edwards' best movie.

Rachel York chews up the scenery as the Judy Holliday bimbo character, but her perfor-



Robert Preston and Julie Andrews in the film *Victor/Victoria*.

mance is such a to-the-letter impersonation of Lesley Ann Warren's sublime Norma Cassidy in the movie that Ms. Warren could sue and win. The musical number "Chicago, Illinois," performed by Norma and The Girls, was roundly criticized in the film version as misogynistic and lewd. It is both, and it has survived, inexplicably, intact.

Since my viewing of it, the play has spent the summer in

Chicago on its way to Broadway. There is ample time for someone to do some major rewriting. One can only hope that some of the essence of the film version of *Victor/Victoria* will be revived on stage for its New York opening. ▼

Will Shank is Chief Conservator at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and an occasional critic.

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MUSIC

Jill Sobule Plays Slim's She Kissed A Girl

by Adrian Roberts



Jill Sobule

Earlier this summer, there was no escaping it. *That song*. You know the one. At the time, I was on a cross-country roadtrip, and every "modern rock" station across the nation was playing it. Incessantly.

At first, it just seemed cute. A little innocuous ditty about a girl experimenting with lesbianism for the first time, Jill Sobule's "I Kissed A Girl" was one of the few songs I'd heard on mainstream radio to address lesbianism so candidly. But after hearing it umpteen-zillion times, it started to sound like fingernails on a chalkboard.

And it wasn't merely the fact that the song was cheeky. It seemed as if she were making a novelty of lesbianism in an "oh-how-cute" sort-of way. Perusing the Internet's alt.music.alternative, female newsgroup, I found others who felt the same way. Many accused Sobule of catering to lesbian chic.

With the song's success, Sobule has had a lot to answer for. In a recent interview in *Venice* magazine, she defended her song by saying, "It's great if the song makes some confused teenage girl feel more normal. I'm surprised by the amount of attention it's receiving." And in *ROCKRGRL*, she was quoted, "It's not so much a statement as a goofy little story that had the kind of intrigue and feeling of a first kiss. And I was able to do it with the same sex thing, because if I were going to write about my first kiss with a boy, that would have been from a 12-year-old perspective, whereas this could be from anybody's age group, and I thought that was a really fun thing to do. I love it for its dumbness."

While it may certainly be a "dumb song," the same can't be said for the rest of the songs on *Jill Sobule*, her self-titled second album. Believe me, after that

first single, I was ready to write her off, but there's more to Jill Sobule than "I Kissed A Girl."

For one thing, besides being a quirky songwriter, Sobule is also a compelling storyteller. Weaving sweetly-sung tales about love and frustration around her guitar playing, many of her songs are inspired by the misadventures of others. They entertain a delightful voyeuristic quality.

Examples of this abound on this album, such as "Margaret," a tale about a girl Sobule went to Catholic school with, who later turned out to be a porn star. Another is the rollicking "Karen By Night," which recounts the double-life of a seemingly conservative woman Sobule worked for in a New York City shoe store.

Others are more introspective. "The Jig Is Up" is a hopeful lament written during a rather down period for Sobule, shortly after she was unceremoniously dumped from her first record label a few years ago.

Considering the ups and downs this thirtyish songwriter has endured, perhaps it's not surprising that one of the songs she does live in concert is a "Baltic folk" cover version of Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive." That alone may be worth the price of admission. ▼

Jill Sobule opens for X, in two acoustic shows at Slim's, Wednesday, August 16 and Thursday, August 17.

Worldly Wailer Comes To SF

by Kelly Lemieux

California is about to be invaded by another performer from our great neighbor to the north, Canada. Singer Bob Wiseman follows in the footsteps of his compatriots Joni Mitchell, Leonard Cohen and Neil Young when he brings his mixed bag of social satire and production savvy to San Francisco August 23. The ex-Blue Rodeo keyboardist is touring in support of his new compilation *In By Of*, on independent Bar None records, the label that gave us They Might Be Giants.

Bob "Prince" Wiseman sings with a soulful whine while accompanying himself on acoustic guitar. He covers musical terrain with a studied intelligence on "How Round The Earth," a response to rapper Ice Cube's occasionally xenophobic lyrics. In the song, Bob offers Cube a look at his bank account and address, to dispel the myth that all Judaic people are wealthy and involved in a world conspiracy. "How Round ..." is one of a number of potent tracks devoted to the very relevant topic of ethnic division.

Other great tracks chug right

Continued on page 39

Unmitigated Truths

In the *Company Of My Solitude*, American Writing From The AIDS Pandemic edited by Marie Howe and Michael Klein; Persea Books, \$14.95

by Jim Coughenour

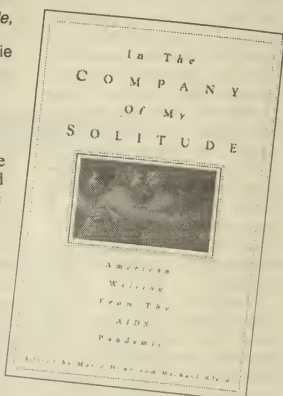
If you're anything like me (jaded, dilapidated), you'd rather set your hair on fire than read another book about AIDS. Ten or so years ago I wrote an essay for a Chicago paper that essentially reviewed every book about AIDS then available in the U.S. That would be impossible now, even for a determined masochist. But the problem isn't the number of books; it's the disease itself. How much more can anyone bear to hear? The reality is so overwhelming, so all-encompassing, that the most tempting refuge is sheer denial. Please. Not another word.

In light of these sentiments, the new anthology *In the Company Of My Solitude: American Writing From The AIDS Pandemic* is not an easy book to endure. I had to force myself to finish it. Each essay required coming to terms (again and again) with the articulate horror of this disease, the devastation and loss, the hopes abandoned, the grief.

Articulate horror? The irony here is that this anthology is so hard to read precisely because it's so good. The contributors cover the spectrum, but virtually every essay is vivid and personal. There's almost no fluff or preening. Just the bare human facts of what AIDS means to those who suffer it: the caretakers, the mothers and lovers and friends of the dying, the dying themselves. Several contributors — Iris de la Cruz, Melvin Dixon, Robert Massa, Paul Monette, Marlon Riggs — are already dead, which makes their writing even more harrowing to read. Oddly, it also enforces what we already know: "We are all in this together."

Some of these essays are particularly strong. Harold Brodkey's stark announcement "To My Readers" from the *The New Yorker* is reprinted here. It's an astonishing literary performance that concludes with the words, "Really, I can say nothing further at this point. Pray for me." Its shock is undiminished. Mark Matousek's "Savage Grace" is utterly unrelenting. This is the second essay I've read by him (the other is included in Brian Bouldrey's *Wrestling with the Angel*), and again I'm struck by the force of his writing. Reading Matousek is like exposing a nerve. He repeatedly refers to spirituality ("the S word") and writes from within that struggle: "Is it spiritual, or simply wise, to admit you're already broken? Thanks to HIV, I have come to live with this fact completely." So he says. But his fury at such "bitter wisdom" is palpable.

Patrick Hoctel's "A Beautiful Day in the Week" perfectly expresses the tedium, the sorrow and the inadvertent humor of living with someone who is dying of AIDS. More mysteriously, he also captures the gentle haunting that happens after they've gone. How many of us continue our friendships with the dead in our dreams, or simply at the back of our minds,



noting their unexpected presence as we turn up a street or enter a room?

Equally unexpected is Paul Monette's "Puck," perhaps the first shaggy dog story ever written about AIDS. Puck is the name of Monette's long-suffering Rhodesian Ridgeback, who

observes Paul's lovers come and die. I didn't exactly hate this piece, but it does succumb to the sentimentality which inevitably attends any story about one's pet.

There are also a few essays (fortunately very few) that set one's teeth on edge. But these people are writing out of pain. There's something obscene about attacking them for sounding arch, evasive, or even stupid. They shall go unnamed.

Like any homo, I imagine a time when AIDS will be history, just one more bloody episode. If that time ever comes, books like this will prove invaluable, for they have witnessed what we've lived through. In the meantime, *In the Company Of My Solitude* reminds us of what we are living through — even if we'd rather forget. "You, then," writes Melvin Dixon at the end of "I'll Be Somewhere Listening for My Name," "are charged by the possibility of your good health, by the broadness of your vision, to remember us." ▼



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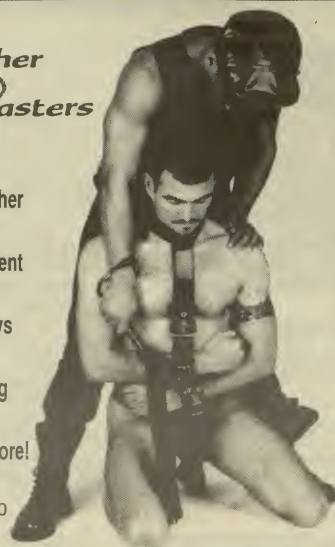
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French Tickler

Skinned Alive by Edmund White; Knopf, \$23

by Roberto Friedman

Fresh from expatriate life in Paris, a worldly gay man returns to his Baptist hometown in Texas. "Luke had sprung the family trap. He'd eaten oysters with rich socialists, worried over the right slang equivalents in English to French obscenities" – but now, HIV positive, he worries he might find himself at the mercy of his born-again relatives. "He was offended that a virus had been permitted to win

an argument. ...He'd cast aside all the old sins, lived freely – but soon Beth could imagine he was having to pay for his follies with his life."

The virus overshadows many of the heroes of *Skinned Alive*, Edmund White's new collection of stories, but never overwhelms them. The loss of friends and lovers colors these stories, but White uses the mood to invoke what was important or stimulating in these relationships in the first place. In doing so, he has given us his most revealing "autofictions" (White's term) yet. In the title story, he explains the appeal of his life abroad: "I didn't know how to explain that now that so many of my old friends in New York had died – my best friend, and also my editor, who was a real friend as well – I preferred my playpen, where I could be twenty-five again but French this time."

Reveling in his role of French brat, White gives us fiendish portraits of Parisian lovers, reminiscences of adolescent lust and an amused look back at his youthful naiveté in early-'60s New York. Though several of these stories have been published before, in the collection with British author

Adam Mars-Jones, *A Darker Proof*, and in the *Men On Men* series, presenting them in a single volume reestablishes White's mastery as a fictionist. These pieces also whet the appetite for his forthcoming *Farewell Symphony*, the final installment in the trilogy of novels begun with *A Boy's Own Story*. ▼



Sloppy Stupidity

There Will Be No Goodbyes by Laura DeHart Young; Naiaid, \$10.95

by Deborah Peifer

A month or two ago, after two different lesbian presses made the same inexcusable error, *id est*, spelling the past tense of the verb to lead as l-e-a-d rather than l-e-d, I decided that I was going to pay more attention to grammar in the books that I reviewed. I realize that good writers make choices about their characters and the ways in which those characters speak, but when all of the characters in a particular novel make the same grammatical errors, we are no longer talking about style,

we are talking about sloppy stupidity.

For example, in Laura Young's altogether execrable novel, *There Will Be No Goodbyes*, all of her characters regularly misuse the object pronoun (viz. "between he and I"). As for punctuation, Young seems to have developed a new punctuation mark, the ornamental comma, which she sprinkles liberally throughout her text.

To make things worse, the entire wretched novel is written in the present tense, creating a sense of static, nay frozen, immobility. I know Naiaid has editors – my question is, what do they do?

But what about plot, you want to know, what about character, what about theme? There are many, many events (Liz, a radio news reporter whose best friend Chris is dying of AIDS, has to deal with homophobia on the job and a relationship with Kate, who won't discuss her past, but when she finally does it turns out that Rachel broke up with Kate in order to have an affair with her [Kate's] father so that Rachel could get a good job at dad's company and, oh yes, there are shotguns and fires and medical breakthroughs and slapping and, oh god, it just goes on and on), but even those that are not pointless are never interesting.

The characters, some dying, some not, are all dysfunctional (and I mean that in the tritest possible way) but essentially indistinguishable from one another. Young seems to be in favor of love and opposed to hate, but I'm not at all sure those beliefs alone are the stuff of great fiction.

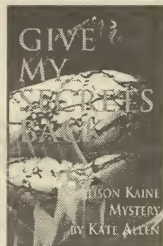
There Will Be No Goodbyes, indeed. Well, there should be. Goodbyes, I mean, and specifically to this dreadfully written novel. ▼

Kitt (no fool she) decides to stay in L.A., while Laney and Tess get to brave the cold and the homophobia of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Odd things are happening, though, that may be simple rural hostility to these urban dykes...or something a lot more sinister.

Before the plot thickens (suspense and danger galore), however, we get to see two women, for whom money is no object, plan a dyke paradise. I found myself thinking of all the lesbian events I've been involved in and all the time we spent desperately trying to do something on no budget at all. What fun, then, to watch selections being made for reasons other than finance.

Schmidt does a fine job capturing the joys (and agonies) of process, although I could do with lots fewer references to AA and higher powers, as Tess and Laney try to come to unanimous decisions. And when the hostility in the town becomes overt, and deadly, the book takes off in ways suspenseful and frightening. *Cabin Fever* is a very entertaining read and a terrifying look at the politics of hate.

(Note to Naiaid editors: peers are equal, so the reference to "equal peers" is redundant. Also, what is a "Cossack hat"? A cassock is a long garment, usually black, worn by the clergy. Did you in fact mean "Cossack hat"?) ▼



Of Inhuman Bondage

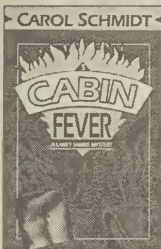
Give My Secrets Back by Kate Allen; New Victoria, \$9.95

by Deborah Peifer

The second Alison Kaine mystery, *Give My Secrets Back*, is somewhat less terrible than the first, the regrettable and forgettable *Tell Me What You Want*. However, given the wretchedness of the first effort, the horrific "less terrible" is perhaps meaningless.

Alison Kaine is a cop, but of course, when Katie Copper is found dead in her bathtub, Alison is not assigned to the case and so must do all of her (inept) sleuthing unofficially. Lucky thing, I suspect, since that many mistakes on the job would surely lead to termination.

On the way to an out-of-nowhere denouement, Alison and her lover, a dominatrix by trade, spend loads of time setting fire to one another and being tied up (spread-eagle, of course) in all manner of places. *Give My Secrets Back* is a bad mystery with flat characters and weak plotting, but if you are into sado-masochism (I am not), you might enjoy the sex scenes and even pick up a few tricks. As for me, I can only say, Ms. Allen, keep your damn secrets. ▼



Sadly Believable

Cabin Fever by Carol Schmidt; Naiaid, \$10.95

by Deborah Peifer

Depressing thought, this, that just a few months ago I would have found Carol Schmidt's *Cabin Fever* a little bit over the top on the believability scale. Then came the bombing in Oklahoma City and all the news about right-wing loonies (is that redundant?), and suddenly Schmidt's novel seems more fact than fiction.

Laney Samms has been roped into a trip to Michigan (in the winter yet) by her boss, music producer Kitt Meyers. It seems that a newly wealthy (very wealthy – I'm talking about the kind of person who can write a \$100,000 check on a whim – and it won't bounce) dyke, Tess Cutler, wants to turn her grandfather's hunting lodge into a lesbian arts center, and

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MUSIC

Wiseman

Continued from page 36

along, like the dreamy "All The Trees," which opens with samples off the radio dial. Wiseman demonstrates why he is such a busy producer, what with all the mariachi trumpet riffs and thumping baselines he snuggles together on this eco-happy number. Bob has toured with Cracker, Billy Bragg, and Eno prodigy Daniel Lanois, and has produced records for Edie Brickell and the Kids In The Hall. From his stats, I would say talented Bob Wiseman is a well-kept secret in the independent world.

Bob has also dropped some wacky bon bons along his path through the entertainment world. He caught flak from a brigade of The Artist Formerly Known As Prince's lawyers when he tried to change is name to the Purple One's former appellation. And Wiseman tends to use and abuse his



Bob Wiseman

pianos on stage with a childlike zeal by pounding on the strings and banging out rhythms with the keyboard cover. That kind of on-stage charisma sounds like a fabulous way to relieve stress and anxiety. And Bob's publicity photo is so damn cute and sensitive that I can only hope he

swings on my side of the Maypole. Bob Wiseman's new *In By Of* compiles three previous releases and covers a lot of ground in 15 tracks. His show at the Bottom Of The Hill will fit right in with that venue's brilliantly diverse line-up of performers and bands. I'm going to drag my travel agent friend Stephen out to Potrero and hope that Bob will sing his murky

ode to designer transportation, "Travel Agent." That alone should be worth the price of admission. ▼

For information about Bob Wiseman's Bottom of the Hill performance on August 23 call 621-4455.

SWEET LIPS

Loser Nicole's a Winner

He always gracious Kimo and his equally hospitable staff (including yours truly on the plank) wish to thank Empress Nicole ("the Lightning Bolt Empress") and her Dream Girls Revue for their July 28 SRO triumph at the Polkstrasse Penthouse Showroom. Nicole more than lived up to her moniker, as many in the audience did, indeed, claim to be "thunderstruck" by her efforts. Her Charo, though perhaps a bit broad in the beam, is dead-on. The revue's first performance sold out, so those ever-resourceful Dream Gals put on a second, raising \$1,200 for the AIDS Memorial Grove in the process! Kudos and kisses to the XXIII Lightning Bolt Court de San Diego! May Nicole lose all her Super Bowl wagers and grace our city with her fair presence every year!

While we're on the subject of the AIDS Memorial Grove, Kimo is planning an August 19 trip to the 15-acre eastern Golden Gate Park site (between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.). The occasion is the planting of a large tree in honor of the departed but not forgotten Empress Sissy Spaceout, plus all Kimo's friends who have died of AIDS. Picnic food will be furnished (watch out for those pesky Formicidae!), and everyone is welcome to attend.

Also on August 19, the

Company Bar will be planting a tree at the grove in memory of the late Roy Bell. Call Ann Dolyniuk at (415) 776-9252 if you wish to participate in this remembrance. Again, all are welcome.

And remember, *garçons et filles*, volunteers are invited to help with the creating of the grove (pull those weeds!) every third Saturday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Wear gloves because you never know what you might find or where it's been. Call (415) 750-8340 for further information (not to mention a man with a very appealing voice).

By all accounts, San Diego's Coronation Weekend was a blast, and the always gregarious Greta Grass was in rare form—even for her. Reports on her "Tijuana terrorizing" were sketchy at my deadline, but needless to say, she seems to have spent most of her time "south of the border." Hmmm.

The Alaska coronation is September 1-4, so break out those kayaks and head up to the Land of the Midnight Sun (not the bar, darlings). Be sure to book early as this is a very popular event. Galloping Greta will be there (does she ever stay home?). Word has it that a new book out from Nome Press, *Igloo Annie*, details Greta's glory days in the whaling industry when her furs were the talk of the 49th state. Buy it! See you in two weeks! ▼



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BARTALK

Parting Glances

Mike From Detroit Living In Vallejo

I met you at Q's on July 7 in Vallejo. I would really like to get to be friends. You are the kind of man I've been looking for. Call Barry. ☎ 4900.

We've Seen Each Other Every Where
I'm that handsome, hot, sexy, studly, GWM, dude like you, but still to meet. Seeing as we are so much a like we both seek a LTR based on love, commitment, respect and monogamy. We are mutually HIV+/healthy. ☎ 4937.

Dore Alley Fair

You: dark hair goatee, wearing jeans cut-offs & olive drab tank top. Waiting in line. Me: dark hair goatee, ripped jeans, sleeveless blue shirt with harness under. We said "hello". Lets say hello again. ☎ 4943.

David Livingston

Around mid July 1978, you bicycled around Martha's Vineyard for 3 days. I was very young, but I never forgot you. You were tall blond, around 24 yo. We met on the ferry to Oak Bluffs. Call. ☎ 4944.

T. From South Dakota

Tuesday night, July 18, you dropped me off at Church & Market after a group discussion in Mos Valley. Too shy to exchange numbers, but let's do it now! Hope to hear from you. J. ☎ 5000.

Diamond Hits Sawlway

Sunday night 7/16. Bumped into each other in produce. We smiled tons while you shopped and I checked out. Me: dark hair, blue eyes, jeans, green hooded jacket. You: adorable. You left with a friend in a Jetta? Call ☎ 5001.

The Cafe Thurs. 7/20

You: Handsome, 6'2", brown hair, blue/white checked shirt. Me: Standing next to the stairway, 5'10", blue plaid shirt. You patted my head on your way out of the bar. Give a call. ☎ 5002.

Oak Street Near Divisadero
We cruised each other near Shell station around noon. I was too shy to turn back and meet you. Saw you at corner grocery 3 weeks ago, but didn't recognize you. Your smile and greeting so sincere as we squeezed past each other. Please call me. ☎ 5003.

Basic Brown Bear Factory Tour 7/18

You with your niece and nephew. I was wearing a teddy bear t-shirt. We spoke briefly. I would like to see you again. I was very attracted to you. Please call. ☎ 5004.

Marcello's, Wed. 7/19, Near Midnight

You: Adorable in dark (blue?) shorts and shirt. Me: shaved head and moustache. You sat by me in window seat as I was about to weave. Several looks, but neither of us spoke. Let's remedy that. ☎ 5005.

Latin/Hispanic Top

You: 144#, swimmers build, 7'1/2" U/C very top answered #4230. WM, bottom to service cock. Your phone number did not work, try again. ☎ 5006.

7/16 Serranont Mal Food Court

You: WM, in shorts, buying pizza. Me: Asian with glasses. We exchanged glances. Would like to meet and get to know you. ☎ 5007.

Baker Beach

Saturday, July 15. I was leaving as you arrived. We said "hello", as I ascended up the trail I waved and you waved back. I have brown hair and a goatee as did you. Please respond. ☎ 4901.

Russian River Fantasy

Beer bottle, hot dogs. Mixed couplings. Let's resume with our tongues where our eyes and lips left off. Discretion assured. ☎ 4902.

Berkeley Shell Station 7/19

You: Big man, big red van with torn sheep skin seat cover. Me: leaving in grey 4WD with friend. Coffee? You won't be bored. ☎ 5045.

Embarcadero Ctr 7/24, 7:00pm

You: denim Jacket, handsome, waiting to meet a friend. Me: blue blazer, beard, heading to a movie. We walked from #4 to #1. Call if you'd like to continue conversation. Don't be shy. ☎ 6001.

Cortland Ave. Thursday, 7/13, 8:45am

You were walking west. We passed and looked back at each other several times until we were a block apart. You were wearing red shirt & white shorts, I was in exercise pants. Like to see you again. ☎ 4903.

Fred: We Went Out Once

Have seen you at "the Club" twice recently moving to Orange County. Dream of orally servicing you before I go. No strings, you'll be glad you called! Please call Jason. ☎ 6002.

John

Met through ads at Oppenheimer in '91. You live Pac Hi, teach Ti. Me: Italian BB. Both beards. I regret I was too shy. Wish I could play Daddy's uncut. Call me, I'm very hot for you. Mike. ☎ 6003.

Muni Fri am 7/28

You're in jeans, striped rugby shirt, dark complexion, great smile, got off at Civic Center. Me: grey hair, jeans, olive shirt. Please call. ☎ 6004.

Seeking Relationship M-M

Attractive Masculine Latino 24

I'm 5'7", 175#, healthy, drk skin and hair, college student, mostly a top. I would like to meet Latins or whites 23-37 for friendship maybe more. You: outgoing and like to take the initiative. ☎ 4913.

V. Handsome Puerto Rican Catch Seeks Latin Lover
31, 5'11", 175, independent & strong seeks handsome, possessive & successful man to whisk me off my feet and into your arms. I need a man with a positive attitude. Hell-a-fine a plus. I'm all good, and fun, too. ND, serious only. ☎ 4907.

Dynamic, Committed Deep Love & Happiness
Sensitive, caring, mature, educated, disabled guy invites spiritual, caring, athletic, adventurous, young, warm guy with a big heart and high self-esteem to enjoy deep loving committed monogamous relationship. ☎ 4910.

Muscle Me

Muscle you. Ruff tuff buff? Yeah? Lets talk Extra VA, nipples, worship religion. Pls be real! I am. ☎ 5049.

Seeking Smart and Hunky

Ivy league educated, gym-toned, 25yrs, GAM, 5'7", 138#, seeks muscle man who isn't a scifi head. Interests: trashy scifi, cheap unhealthy food, and affordable underwear. Please be witty and intelligent. Please be like you know the difference between a bench press & a park bench. ☎ 4911.

Intimate Quiet Evenings

Sarah Vaughn, glass of Merlot and you? GWM, 43, HIV-, attentive, caring, clever, good sense of humor(although cynical) who loves to laugh. I enjoy ethnic food, day hikes, museums and physical contact. Lkg for sincere man 40's for affectionate LTR or friendship. ☎ 4912.

Buffed GWM 4 Quality GWM

Musculine muscled, attractive and intelligent intensely spirited African-American Exec seeks handsome, versatile, mature, confident, witty, gym-toned, Euro-American Hunk... for sex, laughs, friendship, maybe more! ☎ 4914.

Bisexual Bicyclist

Kind. 34(but still get carded) Asian. Tall, fit, N/S. Passions: music, bicycling, swimming, ecology, politics, good conversation. Ideal evening, diner, riding under the stars, then... ☎ 4917.

Just a Regular Guy Looking For a Guy With

A thin lean body, nice waist line & ass. HIV+ about 33 or younger & into 1 on 1 relationships. I like people but am shy mainly a loner. I am 160#, 5'10", 37-32-38, measurements. GBM not up town type but conservative. ☎ 4905.

Loneliness is a Sad Affair

My arms hold what the world lacks. Me: attractive GWM, 45, 6'5", 280#, football players build. You: attractive, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth to moderate body hair nice hunk. Sex I'm a top, ass play, spanking. Interests: TV, music, working out, fine dining, plays, concerts. ☎ 4906.

I've Been In Love 8 4

(O' darling what a bore!) Young (July 11)67, trim, amusing, take-home-to momable, Phi Beta Kappa/oral major seeks slim 18+, big loads for good jobs any where BART goes. Call now! ☎ 4908.

Give To Yourself First

GWM, mid 40's, HIV-, low mileage looking for GWM or GLM 30-50 for someone who has lots of LTC likes to do things together and for each other and run's on prem, so our motors run hot. ☎ 4909.

The Art Of Love is Golden

GWM, early 40's, HIV+ & healthy extremely, handsome, my heart aches to love & be loved. I believe in the celebration of love & life. I'm a great catch and I also believe in monogamy. I've loved before and want to again. ☎ 4938.

His and His Monogrammed Towel Sets?

No, but holding hands, passionate foreplay, sweaty dating, yes! Me: 34, top, friendly, tall and lean moustache, goatee, very handsome. You: trim, romantic, bottom (or willing to be). ☎ 4946.

Orlando Tights

GWM, professional in Florida has sensual fetish for the feel/look of nylon/lycra. Not into drag. Loves the bay area & seeks friends, bicycling, ballet & kitties. ☎ 4916.



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Sleepless in Seattle

Lonely heavy set GBM, 36, 6'0", 245#, seeks lonely heavy set GM any race for LTR. I like movies, playing the piano, dining and travel. Must be HIV-, NS/ND bottom. Must be able to relocate to Seattle. Serious only. ☎ 5009.

Brat Boy Wants Successful White Lover.

I'm looking for financially successful, cute, white men who can treat this 29yo, very attractive, Afro-Canadian, demanding lover boy like the prince I am. Serious seekers and safe sex only. ☎ 4941.

One Good Man

Attractive GWM, 40, 6'1", 175#, HIV-, in-shape, brown hair, blue eyes seeks similar gdlkg man, to share with, to talk with and find the secret together. ☎ 4915.

Rare Find

If you are honest, relationship oriented and yet handsome (rare find these days), then I'm (GAM 28) interested in meeting you for LTR. Please be fit & GWM (26-35) and no game players. ☎ 4945.

I'll Do All It Takes

To swallow you full load(s), fresh from factory; for starters, at least twice if you have time. Eager milkman goes anywhere BART goes to collect your heavy cream, call now! ☎ 5010.

White Skin Seeking Dark Skin

28, 5'10", 180#, attractive, masculine, stable, white dude seeking black or Latino who is attractive, masculine with great capacity for joy, growth, intimacy and honesty. ☎ 4947.

Amputees

An Affirming support group for gay amputees is organizing, dealing with loath, self-love, dating, appearance, disclosure and rejection issues, etc. Call for information. ☎ 4949.

Tall Handsome HIV+ Bottom Looking for Sexual Slave

Are you free most of the time. Daytime or anytime fun sought. I want to just call or have you show up on the spur of the moment. Do me, screw me, love me, kiss me drive me out of my mind. Me: HIV+ healthy attractive homebody, 6'3", br/gr moustache 180#, 40yo. ☎ 4949.

Love For Sale

Price is right. A smile, a kiss, a hug. Till, dark, handsome, bright GWM, early 50's - seeking younger aware together lover, HIV+. Goal LTR. Someone special is waiting. ☎ 5008.

World Class Cuddler Desired

By GWM, 38, 5'8", 160#, brown, green moustache, smooth body. Want similar warm hearted, sensual, good communicator, excellent kisser, N/D, N/S. You: ok if older, younger, hairy, taller, etc. ☎ 5011.

Relationship Wanted in Fairbanks Alaska

GWM, 32, 5'9", 175#, br/gr, gdlkg, sees male for relationship, looks not important, the heart is. HIV- and versatile. Very secure, good home, lots of love for the right man. Must relocate to beautiful Alaska. Honest & ND ☎ 5012.

Snow White I Ain't.. Who Is?

45yo, WM, hopeful romantic lkg for some wonderful sort of some one. N/S Prince Charming only, plz. Age/race unimportant as long as your for real, not into games. ☎ 5013.

Hairy Man

WM, good looking, hairy, 6'2", 215#(not fat), uncut, N/S. I'm looking for me, only cut. Employed, intelligent, humorous. I enjoy oral high times, giving and receiving. Be 35-50. Let's meet for a beer, or a coffee. ☎ 5014.

Where's A Good Friend?

6', 24, very attractive, slender, old-fashioned, sensitive, AM, cheer with a presence, affectionate and sincere. Seeks friend, age unimportant, WM. Be easy going and sensitive. You'll know why my friends call me "a Find." ☎ 5015.

Asian Top With Big Cock 6 1/2" Thick

Handsome, sexy honest Asian, 28, 4'10", 115lbs. HIV-, GWM for open mind 18-35 bottom friendship maybe more. ☎ 5016.

Dread Locked Dream Boat

That's you. Chubby WM, 35, seeks petite chub chaser, fit, any race. Let's get ready to cuddle! ☎ 4948.

Attractive GWM Seeks Relationship

I'm 38, 6', 185#, HIV+, with short brown hair, and moustache, "bedroom" eyes, and a smooth body. I would like to meet other attractive men of Latin or Asian heritage who are between the ages of 28-40, N/S, or heavy drug users. ☎ 5017.

Top GWM Gdlkg

160# into leather, HIV+, healthy lkg for pos. relationship with right person. I prefer shorter and hairier, I am financially secure. ☎ 5018.

Attractive Latino

I'm, 24, 5'7", 175#, healthy, college student, drk skin, smooth body. I would like to meet Latins or whites 24-37 for friendship maybe more. You: be, sincere, outgoing and like to take initiative. ☎ 5019.

Military Love

Musculine man, 30yo, 6", 190#, strong, muscular, ex-military, clean cut, into jock straps. Looking for friendship and relationship, seeks 18-35yo WMs w/ flat tops and shaved heads. Into military drag. I enjoy hiking & camping. ☎ 5020.

Incarceration Puerto Rican

Top, 39yo, brn/blk, 5'11", master lkg for a person to have a good time & keep in touch with 30-40yo with a hot bottom for good ass loving. ☎ 5021.

Top Puerto Rican 5'11", 39yo

GWM, bi, gdlkg, big dick, brn/brns very sensual oral creative, you ask incarcerated, like bikes, outdoors, listen to music, opera, movies, horse back riding. ☎ 5022.

Looking For True Love

Young 69yo, looking for true friendship and companionship, why must it always be sex, when true love is more powerful. ☎ 5023.

Older Seeks Younger For LTR

One night stands just does not cut it for me and hopefully you feel the same way and you are 18-40 and can relate well to being with attr loving/caring man of 71 both in and out of bed. ☎ 5024.

Serious Student

GWM, 5'6", 145#, athletic, usually serious, semi-professional, student: seeking friend who is similar, 30-40, prefer N/S, N/D, N/A (or moderate A), HIV-. Let's compare notes. ☎ 5025.

FTM Fan!

SWM Genetic 32, 5'11", 250#, seeking FTM companion for dinner, movies, hanging out, cuddling and good times. Possible LTR. Give me a try. ☎ 5046.

Any Race, Inexperienced, Too Shy, Fat

To intelligent to like promiscuity, too skeptical to believe in quasi-heterosexual coupledom, sought by 3 men monogamous 13 years. Intellect improves with age. Look deteriorate. Invest well. ☎ 5047.

HIV+

Attractive & needs friends + sex any age race. ☎ 6007.

HIV+, GWM Seeks Same in SF

You: Top, healthy, want LTR. We: like weekend dating, drinking, dining, hot "natural" sex, affection. Me: bottom southern, 50ish, generous romantic, 5'11", 222# of non-attitude. ☎ 5048.

Great White Dane Dreams of Great GBM Owner

Who will be my equal/my lover, by day, but be my demanding master at night(S/M, W/S, B/O). I'll swallow, do what you want. I'm 6'3", 170#, 32, very cute, toned, educated sweet if U.R. a proud, horny tall, indep., very goodlooking 25-37yo. Afr(Am) prince, call me. ☎ 6005.

BarTalk

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PERSONALS

GWM, 6'3", Brn/td
Divorced father w/ 13yo son lkn to meet family oriented male between 27-40 for fun & pass relationship. ☎ 6019.

Bearded British Guy
Short, dark and handsome top, 5'8", trim body, neat beard & moustache, hairy, intelligent, uncut, (HIV+), looking for a friendly, sincere, masculine bottom (Gr/P, Fr, AP). Someone who enjoys eating out, movies, going away for the weekend, kissing, cuddling, sleeping together as well as sucking and fucking. ☎ 6006.

Buffed GBM 4 Quality GWM
Masculine muscled, attractive and intelligent, intensely spirited African-American Exec seeks handsome, versatile, mature, confident, witty, gym-toned, Euro-American Hunks... for sex, laughs, friendship, maybe more! ☎ 6008.

Young Cute Black Top With Money
Looking for young hot white bottom 18-25 only for a long time relationship. I will take care of you and love you. You will be taken good care of, serious only ☎ 6009.

Handsome BM Needs a Good Man
Looking for hot w/ht btm. Must be masc., 30's, attrc and facial hair. Can be vers when needed. Military or leather types a plus. ☎ 6010.

Black On Black
GBM, 30, fit, attractive, masculine, professional seeks masculine GBM for friendship and possible relationship. I enjoy jazz, the outdoors and fun. If you're interested in a sincere relationship. ☎ 6011.

Simply Put!
Me: GWM, 38, 5'6", 130#, HIV+, ISO intimacy, dating, romance. I'm honest, passionate and versatile. You: GBM, emotionally available, unattached ISO an honest, loving, adventurous LTR. ☎ 6012.

One Special Guy
Sought by nice looking 52, GWM, HIV-, N/S, 5'8", 160#. Were successful, educated, romantic, sincere & fun. UB GWM 36-48 know how to communicate and have a brain & a heart. ☎ 6013.

Am I The Only One
Who wants to know someone before getting involved? I am a professional, assertive, fun loving and more. ☎ 6014.

Excellent Catch
Me: Very handsome muscular, masculine, sensual, extremely romantic, b/bl, 38yo. You: b/bl, muscular, masculine, body hair, romantic, stable. ☎ 6015.

I Have A Bear Magazine Look
GWM, 40, hairy, husky, balding, moustache. I'm 5'9", 195#, dr br hair. I'm looking for a guy 20 to 30 w/ attractive boyish looks for a possible relationship. I enjoy bicycling, walks, Sci Fi, humor, safe versatile sex & more. ☎ 6016.

East Bay Lover Wanted
Mature well adjusted gay with lean body. You be about 33 or so, white, HIV+, working class (whether working or not) and into white guys. I'm 38, lean & thin fairly handsome & into white guys. Please be thin & lean. ☎ 6017.

HIV+ Hispanic Lover/Boyfriend Wanted
Age 23-43. Me: GWM, masculine, great guy, in great shape, fun to be w/, fun to have sex w/, I have a lot to offer the right guy. ☎ 6018.

Seeking Adventure M-M

Contro Costa County Versatile Top
WM, 5'10", 160#, grn/bn, gym toned body, cute, seeks other GWM for mutual hot summer fun. ☎ 4918.

Cute Bottom Boy Seeks Older Top
Ex-intl model, 25, 6'1", 154#, very athletic (track) with super cute buns and baby skin, seeks sexy, attractive, masculine, similar. HIV- older men 52-65 who appreciated cute looks, buns & high mental age. ☎ 4922.

GWM Wanted By Handsome GWM
GAM, 27, 5'1", 140#, clean cut, smooth-skinned quiet times, romance, and passionate sex. Athletic, all-American types especially desirable. ☎ 4923.

Black Man With Big Tool
You white male bottom who love's taking it deep and hard - serious only. Will be away for a few weeks but will return soon. ☎ 4920.

Latin For Sex
Need a masculine sex buddy who's into clean man to man sex. No scents cause I like the smell of skin. Me masculine, 33, 5'11", 175#, dk features, mustache, HIV+, very healthy gym guy. U around my ht/wt, easy going into good times & sex. Ital & Irish at ☎ 4924.

North Bay Orgy
Masculine in shape, discreet GWM 28yo looking for 6 to 7 similar guys under 30yrs in Sonoma County. Let's all get together and party all night long!! ☎ 4925.

Leather Dad Wants to Pump You Up
Smooth, swimmer-built, young leather dad, with pump, looking for well-built, hairy-chested, trim-bearded men into expanding their horizons and exhibiting their successes. Enjoy tits, smoke, leather and aroma. ☎ 4935.

Amputees
An affirming support group for gay male amputees is organizing, dealing loath self-love, dating, appearance, and disclosure sex. Athletic, all-American types especially desirable. ☎ 4949.

BM Want Big 8+
I am clean 38 want someone 18 to 45 must have big long meat any race OK. ☎ 4919.

Dad Seeks Second Boy
To service chest while first boy sucks. Occasional reversal between boys. There's plenty of everything to go around. ☎ 4952.

Any Or All
Backpacking, hiking, the out doors, spirituality, running, tennis, week end trips, interesting restaurants, good times. I'm muscular and friendly. UB2. ☎ 4927.

Let's Rub Boners
Stick your dick inside my shorts. Slide and squeeze our swollen dickheads together. Watch me shoot right on your stiff dong. Pump your load onto my peter. I'm 42, 145#, 5'9", bald, furry, clean shaven, affectionate. ☎ 5028.

Professional Businessmen
Well suited in crisp shirt and tie is a big turn on. I'm 30yo rebel Latino, husky, 5'11", 195#, moustache, goatee, tattoos for down down daytime encounter. We both know what we want and know how to get it! ☎ 5030.

Brown & Brown
Attractive, healthy 30yo, 6'2", 210#, brn/bl, smooth, medium build. Seeks slim, smooth, younger male who is very oral. Must be NS/ND and not in the scene. I'm mostly an oral top, but I want to service your boyish cock. Smaller endowed, cut and shy, is cool. Also into massage, cuddling and kissing the right guy. Total discretion assured. We've fantasized about this, now lets do it! ☎ 5035.

Spank Me
Rim me, blow me. GWM, 46, 5'8", 160#. Age race unimportant. Talent more important than looks. HIV-, ND. ☎ 5036.

Free Quality Massage
For cute young guys who take good care of themselves. Great for straight & bi-curious. I'm 6'2", 175#, goodlooking, 41, masculine. A safe, pleasurable experience. Table. ☎ 5037.

All You Guys In Alameda
With your eyes on my hot, hard basket: Are you man enough to satisfy the 9 1/2" love tool I'm packing? Leave a direct contact (no machines, beepers, etc.) phone number and let's get started serious only. ☎ 6020.

Big Black Dick
Needs white buns to make frequent trips & deposits 20-40 GWM's only need apply serious only. ☎ 6023.

Tattoos
Handsome, built man likes your many tattoos and hairy stomach, show them to me and we both get off as appreciate you blue-collar look and tattooed hairy masculinity. No other requirements. ☎ 4929.

Leather Fetish
GWM, 34, 5'6", 150#, bld/blu from Boston visiting SF in Oct. Heavy Leather Fetish (no S & M) boots/chaps/gloves seeks gentle/caring GM 25-45 for SS or relationship NS/ND who share similar interest in leather. ☎ 4930.

Well Needed Spanking
GWM, 35yo, 130#, looking for the one who will give that well needed long spanking to me. My punishment is now due to me. ☎ 4931.

Punching & Whacking Off
Tough, muscled, chrome-domed, very hairy, hard-hitting leatherman seeking same (no smoothies) into intense J/O, CBT while swapping gloves or barefisted punches to gut, chest ribs, jaw, other rough action. Can you take as much as you can dish out? Let's push it! ☎ 4932.

Bondage Sling
FF slave, fit, 59, 5'11", beard, tats, sks serious SM topist, do your thing, your way, your limits. Any age, race. Top couples welcome. Deep, wide fast, hard, piston punch, make it blubber. Beer, pot and butt hole brain wash. ☎ 4933.

Top W/S Guy Wanted
Thirsty bottom needs shower, drink. WM, HIV-, 5'11", 155#. Guys with UC dick and generous skin to hold load at, but into all. ☎ 5041.

Wanted Businessman Type Bottoms
Scat top into getting serviced by tall, 40's slim men. I'm 40 hairy, neg, good built getting dirty. ☎ 5042.

Large Shaved Bodies
Tall w/ shaved M seeks those with tall large completely saved bodies. 6' or taller and 200+ or heavier or close. Have camcorder. ☎ 5043.

Paddling/Jockey Shorts
Top, will spank & paddle you. Me 45, 5'11", 180#. You trim vocal/oral. Plead with me to let you leave them on. ☎ 5051.

Enemas
You: Enemas are your main sex gratification, age 20 to 50, must give and receive, experienced, have own equipment, spanking, dildoes. Me: Same, have equipped playroom. ☎ 5052.

Feet Worship
Hirsute, HIV-, Oakland area man, who's attractive, smart, sexy, seeks hot men w/ nice clean masculine feet. Let me grovel, lick, kiss & massage your masterful feet. Love Teva sandals. All Answered. ☎ 6027.

Facial-Cum-Bath
Straight, WM, 50's, needs one or more hung cut males to fulfill my fantasy of having you jack off and shoot your hot load on my face once or multi loads. ☎ 6028.

Attractive Face Sitter
GWM, 38, w/ beard talks dirty to men with hot mouth. If you like to eat ass, call me. Rim chairs a plus. ☎ 6029.

Turtleneck Freak
I'm GWM, 37, 165#, 6' looking to snuggle up with a lean guy in a turtleneck shirt or sweater for cuddling and mutual massage. ☎ 6030.

Seeking Freaky Huge Nipples
I'm 37, muscular, GWM. I would like to date/service a muse guy w/ huge protruding nipples, on a reg basis. ☎ 6031.

Barefoot Summer
Lifelong excitement looking at & fantasizing about men's bare feet. Very aroused, sexually & sexually by kissing, kicking, smelling, caressing bare feet in reciprocal action & go. Gdngk E. Bay, GWM, 5'8", 140#, tan, bearded, HIV-, NA, ND. E. Bay preferred. ☎ 6032.

Couples

Looking For 3 Ways All The Wrong Places.
Lovers, 31, blond, w/ blue eyes, 38 brown, w/ brown eyes both good looking for good looking, masculine top man for 3 ways or other couples for a mix. We're open to trying new things. Bi & straight men ok. ☎ 5044.

WM Couple(40's) Seeks Friendship & More
Like 3 ways? We're both HIV-, non-smokers, light drinkers. Hot sex would be nice, friendship better. Leave a msg and number. ☎ 6033.

Other

An Indecent Proposal
this GWM early 40's, HIV+, extremely handsome & healthy proposes to steel your heart and lead the way to holy monogamous matrimony and show you the benefits of having a partner to love, honor, respect, and obey. ☎ 4951.

Unusual
PWA-KS sees other outcast by handicap, disease, HIV, for friendship and? ☎ 6034.

Mission Buddy Wanted
Already have a lover of longme, want play buddies. I'm 46, 145#, funny and fun. ☎ 6035.

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Fantasies
I'm starting to explore fantasies. Maybe you can give me some good ideas. I'm wide open for all suggestions. Muscular seeks same. ☎ 4926.

Hellhole Domination
By devilish dick fuck master, 6'1", 185#, 35yo, muscular. Bare butt bottoms must be thin and muscular, 18-40yo. Blondes especially wanted. ☎ 4921.

Huge Uncut Latino Wanted!!
GWM, 40, 5'8", 1503, bearded, hairy, dark blond short hair, blue eyes and hungry to service huge uncut latino dick. Will suck you hard then you can work it into my hole. NS, ND and masculine only! Call now!! ☎ 4936.

Say Men Crossing The Bridge Of Love
GWM early 40's. HIV+/healthy extremely handsome has had the experience of the beauty of falling in love before and I want to experience this again. Passionate, romantic, very monogamous oriented! The most rewarding exp of life. ☎ 4939.

Black Brat Boy Wants Successful White Knight
I'm a Afro-Canadian, 29yo, awfully adorable, bratty lover boy. I want attractive white male lovers who are financially stable and giving to be my white Prince. Safe sex and honesty a must. ☎ 4942.

Interest In County Western Dancing
GWM, mid-forties, seeks GWM to teach me country western dancing. I'm too shy to go out two-stepping until I've had a few lessons. So, how about it, cowboy? ☎ 5027.

Muscular Wrestling Coach Seeks Well Built Student
Wrestling practice is over and the rest of the team has left the gym; you've stayed behind for a "private lesson." We hit the mats in our jockstraps and... Let's connect and continue the fantasy. You won't be disappointed. ☎ 5029.

Slut Bottom
Seeks regular top man for feet in the air cum action. GWM 40, 5'6", 130#, HIV-, clean cut preppy type in great shape and health. UB height weight proportionate with little or no body hair. Don't like hairy beary men. ☎ 5031.

Weekday Encounters
Seeking discreet hung black guy for weekdays. You're 25-45, masc. I'm 35, 5'9", gym body, brn/bn, hung, hairy, HIV-. Married a plus. ☎ 5032.

Masculine Passionate/HIV+
Living with HIV doesn't mean giving up passionate sexual encounters. Strong spirited GWM versatile top seeks counter part. I'm late 30's, 5'9", 170#, balding brown, baby blue, goatee, built hairy chest. ☎ 5033.

Addicted to Big Cocks
My horny hairy tight delicious ass and horny mouth need a big cock. Me: GAM, masculine, cute, early 20's, 5'6", 124#, HIV-, tasty uncut. You: top latino or black, have a big cock, uncut and mustache a plus. HIV-. ☎ 5034.

East Bay F*ck Buddy
GBM, 40, 6', 9", top, HIV-, seeks nasty ass boy who likes it wild, big ball A+ - 18-35. Latino, BM. WM, be discreet. Early morning or late night, let me ride you like a horse boy. ☎ 5053.

Sex Buddies HIV+
40, versatile toys etc. any race. ☎ 6021.

Persian Seeks Nordic Type
Handsome, 28yo, w/ dark features and slender boyish body, light skinned is seeking WM in 20's or 30's for fun times. Prefers blondes and N. Europeans: Sexually bottom or versatile. Looking forward to some sweaty encounters. ☎ 6022.

Fat Guy - Goodlooking
Friendly and masculine, 48, seeking in-shape playful guys under 35 who are ready for fun. If you love to get rimmed at+. ☎ 6024.

Are You A Musc Black Guy?
I'm GWM, 37, muscular, looking for a sculptured, muscular, smooth, GBM to date. Pls be serious, sincere. ☎ 6025.

JO Men
5'10", 170#, Italian, BB, bald, beard wants buffed macho man for mutual JO. Must be true butch & muscular. Any race, hairy a plus. Good kisser w/ fat, hard gym likes man to man affection. ☎ 6026.

Fetishes

Scat Bottom
Seeks long feedings with tops, VA BD, SM, boot worship. You be neg. I am. Your best time. ☎ 4950.

Butterfly Subincision
Sks, CBT top, I am equipt dilation sounds, 14mm easy go for 18mm(3/4"), force finger fuck it. FF also welcome, daddy bottom, fit 59, 5'11", 170#, beard, tats, 69, french hyperactive. ☎ 4928.

Lick Me
29yo, GWM, 5'10", 145#, 8', looking for cute boy (under 30) to lick my balls while I beat off. ☎ 5050.

To Sir With Love
GWM, extremely handsome top boy seeks hot bottom daddy to love, honor, respect & obey. To have to hold, in good times & bad, for rich or poor, in sickness & in health until death do we part. These are my solemn vows. Mutual HIV+/healthy & monogamous. ☎ 4940.

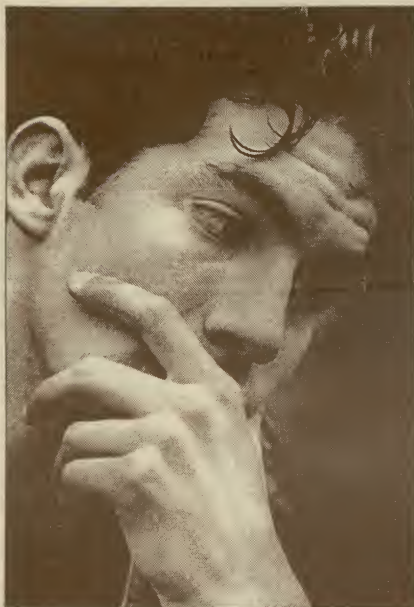
The Hottest Guy In Town
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. ☎ SAFE.

Shave/Trim
Cock, balls, pecs, back, butt, head trimmed-saved. My place, oil massage pos. after shave. Me: 5'11", 165#, muscular, 34yo. You: GW/LM, hairy. ☎ 5038.

Skin Tights
Handsome, smooth, 5'9", 150#, brn/bn, 34, seeks others like me into nylon, spandex, lycra, under gear, tights for mutual sensual pleasuring. ☎ 5039.

ISO 40+, CBT Top
Into serious dilation sounds (13mm easy go for 18mm = 3/4") bondage & force finger fuck it. Stretch it to your dick size, am equipt. Caths, sounds, enflusions, subincision, etc. WM, 59, 5'11", 165#, tattooed, sex, beard, deepthroat. ☎ 5040.

THIS WEEK



▲ Saturday

Edi Xol performs at the 1st Anniversary Party for latino dance club Futura.

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 11

America's Sweetheart

42nd Street Moon revives long-lost Rodgers & Hart musical in a staged concert reading. Fri-Sun. at various times thru 8/20. \$15. 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. **861-8972.**

Bodies of Evidence

Cynthia Greig, Christina Dallas, Jin Lee, Julie Blankenship: photographs that address the female body. Tues-Sat. 12-5pm thru 8/12. SF CameraWork, 70 12th St. **621-1001.**

Command Performance

Installation by Reginald Lamar, the staging of his "Sex Club Opera." Thurs-Sat. thru 8/12. Collision, 417 14th. **431-4074.**

Elephant

Theatre of Yugen presents drama about Hiroshima survivors. Thurs-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 8/13. \$12-15. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. **621-7978.**

Exercises in Fey

Queer cabaret starring Gregory O'Neill, directed by Chela Cadwell. Fri. & Sat. at 10pm thru 8/15. \$10. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th St. **863-4177.**

Felu and Her Friends

Playwright Maria Irene Fornes separates the audience, stages scenes outside the theatre. Thurs-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. thru 8/12. \$6. Durham Studio Theater, Dwinelle Hall, UC Berkeley. **(510) 642-9925.**

The Firehouse Show

Venue for wearable and functional art, free. Thru Sun. Firehouse Bldg., Fort Mason Center.

GAPA Theater

Dramatic works on issues for gay Asian and Pacific Islander men. \$5. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission. **554-0402.**

Ho Down

Merkinstock Benefit with Patsy Cline and the Memphis G-Spots, Elvis Herselvis and the Straight White Males. \$5. 9pm. DNA Lounge, 375 11th St. **331-9595 x300.**

How To Become an American

English comedian Tony Morewood in his first solo monologue. Thurs-Sat. at 8:30pm thru 8/26. \$8-12. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. **826-5750.**

Ker-SHMACKidda

Sketch comedy and musical parody based on '70s pop culture. Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 7 & 9pm thru 8/12. \$10. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. **861-8972.**

Lesbianwerx

The Actor's Theatre of Santa Cruz presents dance and performance from the lesbian community. Fri. & Sat. \$10. 8pm. Actor's Theater, 1001 Center St., Santa Cruz. **(408) 454-0679.**

Medea, The Musical

Comedy by John Fisher in the tradition of Euripides and Busby Berkeley. Wed-Sat. at 8pm extended thru 8/12. \$18-20. Lorraine Hansberry Theater, 620 Sutter. **436-0806.**

Meteor Girl

Katy Hickman in three comic portraits, directed by Sheila Balter. Tues-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 7:30pm thru 8/20. \$10-17. 450 Geary Studio Theater, 450 Geary. **346-7671.**

Motherlogue

Multimedia performance by Valerie Virgil: the death of a mother. Fri. at 9pm, Sat. & Sun. at 8pm. \$5-10. 848 Community Space, 848 Divisadero. **668-4548.**

My Piece of Sky

Day-to-day survival in San Quentin, one-man show by folk musician Ben Aronoff. Tues-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 7:30pm thru 8/13. \$10-15. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. **441-8822.**

Out There (In Here)

Interactive environmental theatre celebrating the 10th anniversary of Burning Man. Fri. & Sat. thru 8/12. \$10 sliding scale. 8pm. Somar Theatre, 934 Brannan. **985-7471.**

Pussy Galore: An Estrogen Explosion

Comics Karen Ripley, Suzy Berger and Annie Larson team up in skits, improv and song. Wed-Sun. thru 8/13. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Rosa's Turn!

Billy De Herrera in a Latino "A Star Is Born": comedy and costumes. Fridays thru 8/25. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Rouge and Lace

"Portraits of American Women" West Coast premiere, five actresses play talented women. Thurs-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 8/20. \$12. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. **861-8972.**

Sportsdykes

Susan Fox Rogers, editor of *Sportsdykes: Stories from On and Off the Field*, with contributors, free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa Ave., Kensington. **(510) 559-9184.**

Summertime Visual Essays

Mixed media work about identity by Lydia Cort and Constance Tell. Reception tonight, 6pm. Tues-Sat. thru 9/23. Sightings, 435 Bryant. **546-1132.**

Saturday 12

A Night at the Opera

Baritone Michael Davidson, soprano Sharon Davis and tenor Keith Ikaia-Purdy in recital. \$16-20. 7:30pm. Calvary Presbyterian Hall, 2515 Fillmore. **392-4400.**

Been There, Done That

New comic sketches by Philip Real, including Alexander the Great and his boyfriend at home. Sat. & Sun. thru 8/20 at 8pm. Place Pigalle, 520 Hayes. **552-2671.**

Dykestrippers

"Lesbian Cartoonists A-Z" contributors, free. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia. **282-9246.**

Fiesta De Aniversario

Edi Xol performs from his CD "Culpable" for the 1st anniversary of latino dance club Futura. \$10. 10pm-3am. 174 King. **665-6715.**

Gay Comedy Night

Scott Silverman, Gail Hand, Martina Bevis. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Girth & Mirth Club

Club for chubby gay men and their admirers, potluck. 7pm. Call for info. **824-0260.**

Jeneieve and Cin

Paintings of "Erotica" and photos of "Women and Tattoos," thru Aug. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St., Suite 216C. **863-2989.**

Making Up

"Making Over & Making Do," three one act plays by Kell O'Connell. Thurs-Sun. thru 8/20. \$12-14. Climate Theatre, 252 9th. **978-2345.**

Pilgrimage

Vocal ensemble Chanticleer performs ancient and contemporary music with Ensemble Alcatraz. \$20-23. 8pm. Mission Dolores Basilica, 16th & Dolores. **392-4400.**

Pool Party

Benefits We Care Bay Area, emergency assistance to PWAs. \$10. 2pm. In Woodside, call for info. **282-1911, mailbox 2.**

Sunday 13

Keep Still

Group exhibition of still life paintings and works on paper, thru 9/15. Regal Art Gallery, 781 Beach. **202-7121.**

La Klubstutita

Dragbar & cabaret Sundays, 10pm-2am, show at 11pm. \$3. La India Bonita, 3089 16th St.

Lust

Sister Kitty Catalyst explores our favorite deadly sin, free. 9pm. Hamburger Mary's, 1582 Folsom. **626-1985.**

Mister Nobody

"A Cabaret of Life." Sundays at 8:30pm. \$10. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market. **861-5016.**

Mystery Tour

Freewheeler Car Club starts tour in Benicia, destination

unknown. \$20.95. Call for info. **756-9727.**

PFLAG Mtg.

Attorney Michelle Huff speaks about Domestic Partnership in the corporate world, free. 3pm. St. Francis Church, 152 Church. **921-8850.**

Queer Spirits

Will Roscoe reads from and discusses his "Gay Men's Myth Book" benefit for Nomenus Radical Faerie Sanctuary. \$5-25. 7:30pm. 194 Church.

Monday 14

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Darrick Richardson. Aspiring



queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Home Front WWII

Alfred Palmer's photographs, 1940-44. Also, photographers Christopher Burkett, Judy Krasnick and Laura Blom. Mon-Fri. 9am-6pm thru 8/19. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission. **621-2107.**

Lifelines

Artworks by participants in Positive Art, a community arts project serving PWAs. Open by appointment thru 8/15. Nexus Gallery, 2701 8th St., Berkeley. **(510) 549-0703.**

B.C. McLaren-Andrews

Photographic collage uses mythological metaphors, thru Aug. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. **864-7654.**

Walter Mosley, bell hooks

Onstage conversation between the authors. \$15. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave. **392-4400.**

The Question of Equality

Archival footage and interviews with leaders of the gay and lesbian civil rights movement. Mon. & Tues. at 8pm. KOED, Ch. 9.

Tuesday 15

All Grown Up

"And No Place To Go" Rick

Reynolds' extended at various 8pm. Station 420 Maso

Tom B

Black and made by Also, "Ca Tues-Sat 8/26. Ro Geary, 42

The Bc

Syrac SF Shake sends the musical Comedy tonight a at various \$12-29. F. 2350 Tur

Jose

Flamenco Tues-Sun thru 9/3 \$30-35. Theatre, 771-690

Henry

The Calif Festival p epic, ope Tues-Sun thru 9/1 Memorial 24, Orinc (510) 54

Horse

Art by R Cheryl L 9/2. Doi 256 Sutt

Juxta

Work in Durkee, Macnee, Gallery. 863-28

Male

Draw Classical bodybuil hosted b 7pm. 12 621-62

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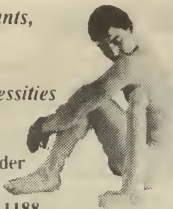
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Boati Auction meeting 7:30pm 905-62

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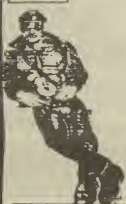
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BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

Marching Toward International Mr. Drummer

I returned home from Los Angeles on Sunday feeling smug about having coordinated the 8th Mr. Drummer regional contest (Mr. Southern California Drummer) at LA's Faultline Bar to be greeted with a message on my answering machine informing me of the death of Gary France, Mr. Northern California Drummer 1991. Gary died at home in Virginia on Monday, August 1 of complications from AIDS.

I didn't know Gary very well, but he was a legendary figure in the jock department of our community and a mainstay with the Golden Gate Wrestling Club.

Imagine everyone's surprise when he entered and won the Northern California Mr. Drummer title! He impressed the judges in the finals that year, but not enough to win the title. Despite his loss, Gary continued with all his various community interests and endeavors. Always smiling, always competing, pushing himself to work out and promoting wrestling interests, Gary was tenaciously enthusiastic about sports. At my deadline, no definite date had been set for a memorial service.

Intl. Mr. Drummer 1995 will be dedicated to all former Drummer men who are no longer with us, including Gary. He will be sorely missed by all

The final regional contest, the Mr. New England Drummer competition, will take place at the Ramrod bar in Boston. It will be produced by Jeff Zirpolo. With 11 regional contests completed, the total number of contestants will be 13, including an invitational contestant from Melbourne, Australia; Sam Kuntzman, and a second invitational contestant from the Northwest (Seattle), Wes Randall.

A few weeks ago I mentioned that Shogun will be the theme of this year's Mr. Drummer finals. I can happily report that the sets are now finished and that Audrey Joseph and her committee have everything under control for the rapidly approaching SF Leather Pride Week. That glorious week of leather madness kicks off with the Leather Pride Walk on Sunday, September 17 and ends with the Folsom St. Fair on September 24. It should be a hot time in the old town that week.

Last Saturday night (August 5), Mr. Southern California Drummer was chosen from a field of five contestants at the Faultline; there was a Tough Customer party on Friday and a meet and greet (contestants and judges). Last year, this event took place during a major SoCal heatwave. When they announced the winner (Don Robert) around midnight, the temperature was 105 degrees.

No such thing this year. The sky was clear and literally sparkled with stars as the flawless music of Faultline owner Shawn Farnsworth wafted through the LA air. Five men competed for the title (Adam Martinez, "Scraps" of San Diego, Richard Ser, Joe Spina and Don Trail), and like all the regional contestants, they competed in interview, physique, speech and fantasy judging by judges (and former IMLs) D. Cannon and Luke Daniel, Michaeljohn Horne, Dan Kelley, and outgoing Mr. So. California Drummer Don Robert. (He did not throw his sash into the firepit after all!)

There were lots of insightful speeches, great leather outfits and innovative jockwear. The fantasies were all first rate, but

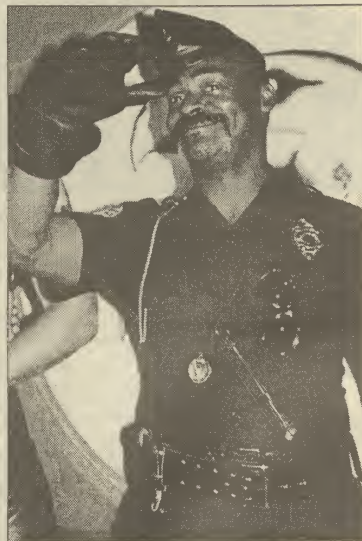


Photo: Mr. Marcus

Mr. San Francisco Drummer Omar Moseley won his title last Thursday, August 3, at the Eagle over two other contestants. He'll compete for the Mr. Northern California Drummer title in San Jose at Club F/X on Saturday, August 18.

the actual winner's stance in the interview, his masculine stature and physique, and his fantasy were so high caliber that he took the title. And what a fantasy! His theme concerned a young man's (consenting) loss of virginity, as stimulated by a few good strokes from a whip, and some frantic pumping after forced penetration and (simulated) anal play. So, it was a bottom getting topped, you say? Ordinary enough, you say? Sure, but combined with the music, the lighting, the humping action, and the climax, this was no ordinary stuff. And when he inserted his fingers and pulled out two huge, ripe Bing cherries and stomped off the stage, the 300 or so assembled men (and judges) erupted in bedlam!

Yes, indeed, Joe Spina, 30, 6'3, 185 lbs., a stunningly butch-looking redhead with blue eyes, walked away with the Mr. Southern California Drummer title. Again, I daresay, he should do well in the finals next month. The first runner-up was Dan Trail, and the second runner-up was Richard Ser. Great event. Well done. We're looking forward to Southern California's entry in the finals.

The Northern California Drummer contest is what you've all been waiting for and it takes place next weekend with activities planned from August 17 to 20, mostly in San Jose at Greg's Ballroom.

There are already three contestants for Mr. Northern California Drummer: Mr. San Jose Drummer Wolf Harmon;

Continued on page 45



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Mr. Southern California Drummer '95 Joe Spina and Drummer Boy '95, "Pup," ascended to magnificence last Saturday, August 5, at the Faultline in Los Angeles.

his friends in the leather and sports communities.

We're heading into the home stretch of the regional Drummer contests. Next weekend, (August 11-13), Mr. Florida Drummer will be chosen in Orlando, and sponsor Spencer Osborne has a good number of contestants and boys vying for the honors. The next weekend, at least five local men will vie for the Mr. Northern California Drummer title at the Club F/X in San Jose. The event will be sponsored by Graylin Thornton.

Eventures in Leather

All phone numbers are in the 415 area code unless otherwise indicated.

Weekend, August 11-13:

Mr. Florida Drummer contest in Orlando; Drummer boy will be chosen on Friday at the Parliament House; Mr. Florida Drummer '95 gets his sash on Saturday night at the Club Firestone.

It's Leather Pride Week in Portland, OR and they're choosing Mr. and Ms. NLA: Portland. Our own Andy Anderson will emcee and he's got his eye on Mr. Leather Portland, Brian Bramlett. Hi Roland!

Friday, August 11:

The Playground (aka Magic Kingdom) opens for business, games tonight (74 Otis St.). It promises to be a spectacular arena of pleasure for everyone. Call 864-PLAY for events and schedule.

SF Leather Pride Party at the Eagle and a \$6 beerbust. Stepping down ceremonies for Greg Pennington, Robb Esmonde, Omar Moseley, Rainbeau, Don Thompson, and Serena Drogose. If you don't know the titles they're vacating, get on down there and Emperor Brian and

Empress Donna will explain it all to you.

Saturday, August 12:

Communications Access Network, the folks who provide signers for the deaf at leather events will host a beerbust at the Eagle from 2000-2300 with Mr. SF Leather Wolf Mirasol emceeing. Slave auction, raffle and spankings.

The second Hood Party unfolds at the Jackhammer from 1700-2000 along with a \$5 beerbust. Wear your own or bring a friend in a hood. And don't worry! Property values in the neighborhood have not dropped!

Sunday, August 13:

The GDI's Midsummer Madness beerbust at the Eagle from 1500-1800. Only \$8. Food, entertainment and all the usual suspects will be lurking about.

SM Community Exchange at the Women's Bldg. Time: 1400-1700. Men welcome. Admission is \$4. I don't know what this is about, but it's leather and it's sanctioned by Peter Fiskel Go!

Wednesday, August 16:

Leather Buddies party at 933 Harrison. You know the rules! No cologne and you must wear leather and boots. Doors open 2030-23300. Party goes until whenever. Call 979-0242 for details.

Friday, August 17:

Grand opening of The Stockade (in Buck's Bar) in San Jose, a leather/Levi bar. It continues throughout the weekend in conjunction with Mr. Northern California Drummer action.

Weekend August: 17-20:

Mr. Northern California Drummer with most of the action at Greg's Ballroom in San Jose, except for the contest itself, which is on Saturday afternoon at Club F/X. It's \$40 for the "Black Pack," which admits you to every event. Benefits Project Open Hand and the Aris Project.

Saturday, August 19:

SF Cheeks & Chaps contest at the Eagle, 2000-2300. No price mentioned on their flier, nor if men and/or women can compete. Call Jacques at 828-0266 for more information. ▼

Marcus

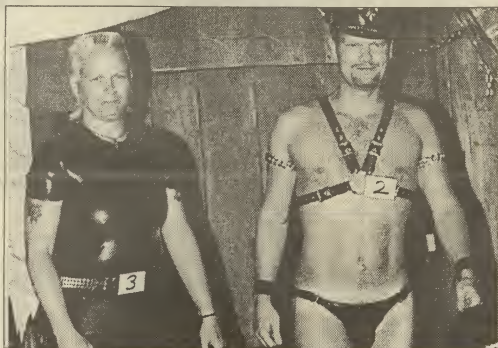
Continued from page 44

Mr. Alameda Co. Drummer Roger Luttrell; and last Thursday night, Mr. San Francisco Drummer Omar Moseley was chosen at the Eagle.

The other contestants were Tommy Reaves and George Holcroft. Straight from her stunning victory in Chicago, Intl. Ms. Leather Pat Bailie joined Daddy Don Thompson and Keith Shaw on the judging panel. It was a fun night and here's wishing the contestants good luck in the next stage of the competition.

The Dishcovery Channel

Been watching TV commercials lately? Have you seen the Foster Farms ad featuring everyone's fave stand-up comic, "Lurch"? You'll laugh your ass off at this one. I suspect local Foster Farms sales amongst gay



"Thumper" (left) and Ken Meyers were chosen Ms. and Mr. Alameda County Leather 1995 at the Turf Club in Hayward on July 29.

longtime leather bar in that city, the Shaggy Dog, has been sold and will reopen as a straight bar! Vancouver's leather community is very upset and will probably descend on the Underground, if

Tomorrow night, San Francisco's biggest sex club, The Playground, opens at 74 Otis St. It's being billed as the "Magic Kingdom." If you haven't gotten the word yet, just get over there! Otis St. is only one block long and is between South Van Ness and McCoppin St., that little continuation of Mission St. before you actually get on the outbound strip. The Playground is said to offer everything you could possibly want in a sex club, a place with thousands of square feet filled with every imaginable kind of play your little heart could desire. Call 864-PLAY for more information. Don't miss this one!

And down in LA, the ever-innovative Shawn Farnsworth, owner of The Faultline, will soon launch a weekly gimmick that's sure to attract SM fetishists. It's called the Wheel of Torture, a game in which willing subjects are strapped onto a St. Andrews Cross and then spun around until the arrow on one end points to any of 20 or so SM "conditions." For example, if the arrow stops on "spanking," you get 10 or 20 whacks; if it stops on "wax," several ounces of said stuff are poured somewhere on your body, etc. I predict this one will draw hefty crowds. ▼



Handsome Wolf Mirasol, Mr. SF Leather (L), and Mr. San Jose Drummer Wolf Harmon, co-emceed the SF Leather Daddy contest. They seemed to thoroughly enjoy the experience.

gourmets will soar!

Jerry Roberts, Warren Cave and some other iron-ass bikers are touring the Great Northwest. They just terrorized Vancouver, B.C. and discovered that the

not the Index Club. They also discovered a very hot S/M campsite in Oregon visited by hundreds of tops and bottoms every weekend. You know Warren Cave loved that scene!



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True Erotica

by Rod Cazzo

All right. I have nothing bad to say about this film. This, for a flick that doesn't include a single man being kissed, cock being sucked, or ass being fucked. *Wrestle* (Greenwood/Cooper Homevideo), unlike so many other films of the ever-growing porn genre, is actually truly erotic.

Cinematically, it's beautiful throughout. The editing is tight, and the camera maintains the right distance from the action in every scene. The lighting is

excellent, seductive even, and the sets are staggering. Unless I've been duped, these are real Greek-era ruins, mosaic floors and ancient baths. And the boys (no matter how old these guys are, they exude boy-feel throughout) are sexy without having LA gym bodies and Venice Beach hair.

There are no stars in *Wrestle*, and for once, you get to see male sex versus Donny Russo sex. Nor is there any time spent posing, for the action is about men fighting for physical dominance.

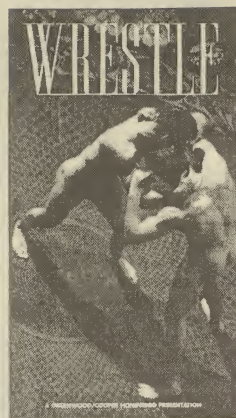
Wrestle begins with a detailed passage about Greek wrestling.

It's forgettable, but it does testify to the interest the director had in making this film. Then we see the interior of an old Greek bathhouse populated with boys in loincloths on the old pool's ledge. Two boys begin splashing each other in the water. Next, they wrestle in the large bath. You start to wonder why you haven't fucked around in the bathtub lately. Dripping wet, the boys look surprisingly vulnerable, thus quite sexy.

After showing a man relaxing in a cascade of water from above, the film continues with two more wrestling bouts: one

where the boys wrestle on a mat and another where they wrestle while standing up in an amazing rotunda with a spectacular tiled floor. The wrestling is so convincing that I wouldn't be surprised if the director researched this subject in detail prior to making this film.

Wrestle isn't just for wrestling fetishists. It's worth renting because it's truly erotic. It sets your fantasies in motion. If you've never kissed the soft skin of a man's ass or smelled the seductive scent of his asshole, this film makes the argument to rush out and do so. ▼



BOOKS

International Style

by Rachel Pepper

Lesbiot: Israeli Lesbians Tell Their Story edited by Tracy Moore; Cassell Publishing, \$16.95

In recent years, the proliferation of specialty anthologies (both in fiction and non-fiction categories) has guaranteed that many subgroups within the lesbian com-

munity have begun getting the recognition they deserve. Both *Lesbiot*, edited by Tracy Moore, co-founder of the journal *Common Lives*, *Lesbian Lives*, and Sharon Lim-Hing's *The Very Inside* are worthy examples of this publishing trend.

Lesbiot collects the life stories of 21 contemporary Israeli lesbians, ranging in age from 20 to 70. Through personal testimonies of women like Naa'ama Shapiro and Chaya Shalom we

learn about kibbutz life, politics, and religious life. From Bat Miriam, even what it's like to live openly as a lesbian mother married to the father of her children, a gay man.

Although the situation for gays has improved since these slightly outdated accounts were given in 1988, the hope in and love for Israel and other women still makes *Lesbiot* a shining example of international lesbian life.

The Very Inside: An Anthology of Writing by Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbian and Bisexual Women edited by Sharon Lim-Hing; Sister Vision Press, \$16.95

The Very Inside is the first major collection from Asian and Pacific Islander lesbian and bisexual women, most of whom now live in the U.S. and Canada. In essays, interviews, erotica, poetry and prose, the more than 60 contributors explore their dual identities as both lesbians and bisexuals and women who originate from, or identify with, countries including Vietnam, China, Malaysia,

Korea, Hawaii, and India.

Most women in *The Very Inside* write with unequivocal pride in their heritage and themselves, as bisexual activist Lani Ka'ahumanu does in her poem, "Hapa Haole Wahine": "Don't talk to me/unless you are willing to listen/Don't talk to me unless you are willing to face

claim to be Japanese. To do so would be a lie. It's a presumption that I am somehow linked to a country that I do not even know."

By reading *The Very Inside*, both Asian and non-Asian readers will come to know about this country and others. ▼



yourself/ I am brown/I am yellow/I am white/I am proud, visible, and vocal mixed race multicultural woman."

Others write about their heartwrenching struggles with racism, homophobia, or the search for self, both sexual and cultural. Tze-Hei Yong claims to be looking for another "Chinese dyke who can teach me the Cantonese word for lesbian, and help me open that buried Cantonese part of me," while Midi Onodera writes, "I cannot

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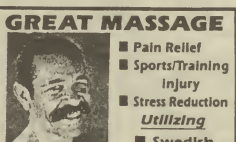


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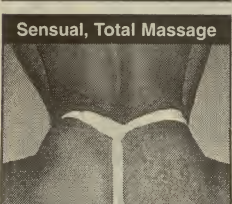
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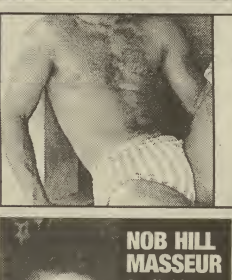
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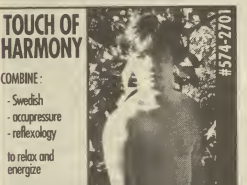
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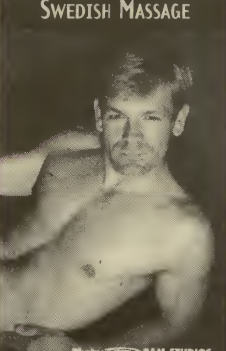
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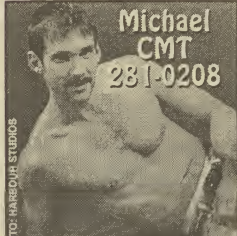
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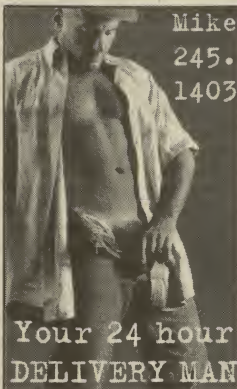
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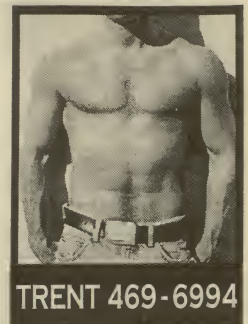
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29 yo • Tight Smooth Body
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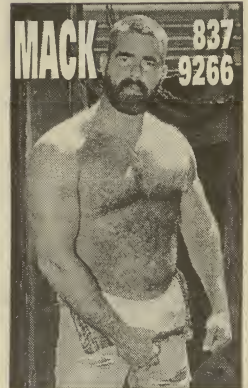
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--- Page: 303-1235

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Young and Friendly Teen

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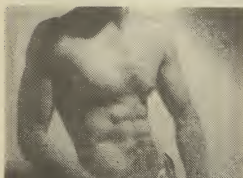
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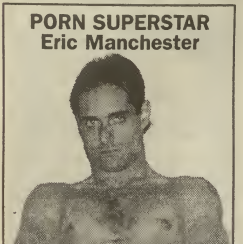
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MAN NEXT DOOR
Muscular 34 6'4" 190#
Auburn Blond, Lightly Furry
Hung \$100 SEAN 487-1949



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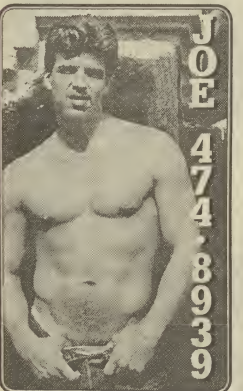
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One of the Biggest and Best
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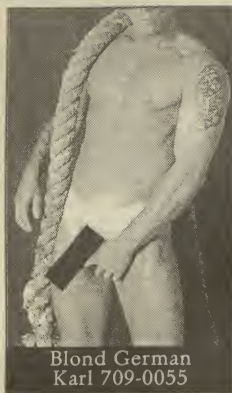
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Imaginative,
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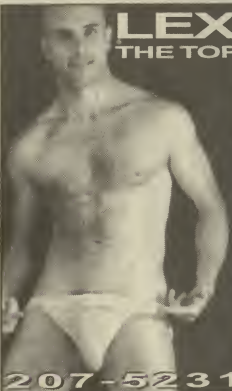
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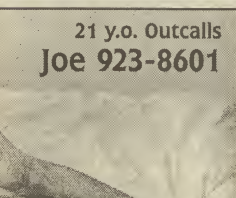
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HAIRY
HUNG

863-4847



Let Me Show You

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compact torso, great chest, bubble butt

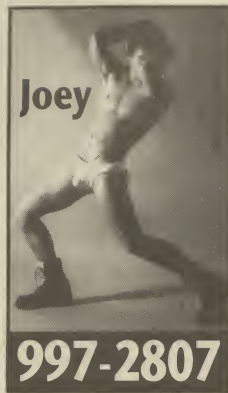
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and a bountiful basket
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& a sensual moustache
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Lean, Smooth, Cute, Hot
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KURT

6 ft 180 Br/Br 28 Yr
Lightly Hairy Chest

Hot Hairy-Chested 36 Y/O
DOMINANT SENSUAL
\$100 * Bryan * Pgr 560-9478

Handsome, Muscular Italian
11" THICK
I kick back-Tony 560-5119

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Gorgeous 18 yo Blonde Blue
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